The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, AUGUST 13, 1908.

The Week.

Mr. Bryan is much pained because President James W. Van Cleave of the National Association of Manufacturers does not approve the "labor plank" of the Democratic platform, and in the last issue of the *Commoner* Mr. Bryan has expressed his grief. The Democratic plank, he assures us, does not, as Mr. Van Cleave asserts, demand "class favors." "The laboring men," says Mr. Bryan with much unction, "resent an attempt to discriminate against them in favor of any other class." Apparently, however, they do not resent an attempt to discriminate against other classes in favor of the laboring men; for here is part of that plank in which Mr. Bryan takes such pride:

> The expanding organization of industry makes it essential that there should be no abridgment of the right of wage-earners and producers to organize for the protection of wages and the improvement of labor conditions, to the end that such labor organizations and their members should not be regarded as illegal combinations in restraint of trade.

This, if it means anything, means that labor organizations shall be exempt from the operation of the anti-Trust law. That law is general in its terms and relates to labor organizations only in so far as it relates to all other organizations in restraint of trade. If this plank is not intended to make an exception of labor, it is not intended for anything but buncombe.

That the Democratic National Committee is experiencing difficulty in raising money is evident from the fact that such unusual methods are mooted as inducing labor unions to impose an assessment for Mr. Bryan, or sending out solicitors to make direct appeals and to take up collections. It is impossible not to sympathize, not with Mr. Bryan's managers merely, but with any honest campaign committee which endeavors to raise money as it should be raised—by the voluntary gift of the many voters interested in the election. The truth is that our electorate has been pauperized. It has been led, with good ground, to believe that individuals seeking private gain or public office would "put up" the money. Thus only a day or so ago it was announced that the Republican officeholders in Philadelphia would be assessed. And for what? Not to carry Pennsylvania, but to amass a fund for other States. The voter needs to be enlightened as to his duty to contribute to a cause in which he is vitally interested. His present attitude reminds one of the anecdote told of a stingy church member who always declined to contribute to church expenses, because, as he said, he believed salvation was free. A wise old deacon who had labored with him retorted: "My friend, we must discriminate: salvation is free, but religion is expensive." Politics, like religion, is expensive. The trouble is that the wrong people have been eager to foot the bills.

Mr. Taft is evidently tired of being held responsible for the Brownsville affair. On no other theory can we explain Gen. Henry C. Corbin's publication of President Roosevelt's telegram from Porto Rico, insisting that the order of discharge be executed without regard to "the yelling either of the politicians or the sentimentalists." President Roosevelt, too, must be convinced that the publication will help Taft, for he cheerfully declares: "Gen. Corbin's statement is absolutely correct, and it was entirely proper that he should make it." The clear inference is that the President and the other managers of the Republican campaign are a bit nervous about the negro vote, and are unwilling to take any greater risks in regard to it. The telegram from Porto Rico is of further interest as showing how our government is run. Mr. Roosevelt had inflicted the punishment, as usual, "after due deliberation." Mr. Taft, the responsible head of the War Department, had doubts about the matter, and wished to look into it more fully; but his desire was coolly disregarded by a President who rode over him roughshod. If this be due deliberation, what would be indecent haste?

The cordial welcome extended to Admiral Sperry's fleet of battleships at Auckland, New Zealand, is best interpreted as a spontaneous outpouring of good wishes to our sailors upon their first long practice voyage of circumnavigation. Of course, there are those who see in this natural ebullition evidence of a relaxed tension of the Australasian mind. We are to suppose, according to this view, that New Zealand has feared a descent by the Japanese navy. It may be well, however, to remember that Great Britain keeps a far larger squadron of cruisers in Eastern waters than any other Power, so that, even without our ships, the British colonies in the Pacific are not quite defenceless. Without falling into the somewhat magniloquent tone of the London *Daily Telegraph*, which in consequence of the arrival of our fleet at Auckland acclaims us "no longer a Western, but a cosmic Power," we may heartily echo the wish that our navy's cruise may sensibly promote the principles of the Hague Peace Conference.

The shocking thing about the cold-blooded massacre of the non-union men by the strikers in Alabama is that it does not come as a surprise. It has become second nature for some Southerners to express their minds with gun and noose. On Sunday morning "several determined men" did so—by taking from the jail in Tifton, Ga., an eighteen-year-old negro boy and hanging him, because he made an "impertinent remark" to a white girl. This does not surprise us, either; it is an old story. Our record in the North is far from spotless; we have had our outbreaks of savage violence, too. Now the South is more than ever paying the penalty for its long indulgence in lawlessness, for its long tolerance of private revenge. The wild justice of lynch law is breaking down into mad injustice. Public opinion exercises little restraining force. Murder, as the horror-stricken Tolstoy cries, is the prolific breeder of murder. Hence peculiar interest attaches to the present lawlessness on a large scale. The Governor of Alabama is showing commendable vigor in sending troops to the mining country; the question is whether they will enforce the laws and whether public opinion will support them. "Guarding" a train without cartridges is a poor beginning.

The movement of railway employees to coöperate with the companies in the

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

campaign for higher freight rates has made rapid progress, and has extended from the East to the Central West. The reason is not hard to divine. The roads want to make money, but they are unpopular. In the contest with the shippers, who are more numerous, the railways want an ally and seek it in their own employees. The employee is practically told by the companies: "Unless we can get higher rates, we must cut your pay; unite with us, and make the shipper and the consumer pay the bill." Naturally, the employee adopts the view that for the time being his interests run parallel to his employer's, but opposed to the general public's. He argues that it is better to parcel out the increased freight rates among the 80,000,000 consumers than cut the wages of a million and a half of railway men. But some facts he forgets. One big reason for the falling railway profit is the continuance of high wage scales originally extorted by employees during boom times. Another fact is that many wage reductions have been made in other industries; another, that many dividends of carriers have been cut or suspended; and still another, that higher freights will in some instances lessen the traffic and decrease the demand for railway labor.

The answer which the Reading Railway Company makes in the suit brought by the government against the anthracite roads under the Hepburn act illustrates two things, from both of which the plain citizen begs an early deliverance. The first is the practice of large corporations of disclaiming responsibility for their acts by interposing an *alter ego* which is by legal fiction distinct from the corporation accused. Thus the Reading Railway Company maintains that it has no interest direct or indirect in anthracite coal carried over its lines, because there is an underlying "Reading Company" which owns a controlling interest in both the railway and the mining company. If wickedness is suspected, the prosecution must unearth this monster, not the innocent transportation company under the presidency of George F. Baer. In law this may be a valid plea, but the individuals interested in the three concerns are not unacquainted with each other. The legal subterfuge moreover embitters the public, which may one day show its teeth. The other matter which the suit illustrates is the loose drafting of anti-Trust statutes. For it is possibly true, not only in law but in fact and reason, that what the Reading Railway Company avers as to the unconstitutionality of the commodity clause of the Hepburn act is true. Not that we are impressed by the contention that regulation of interstate commerce can never rise to the point of prohibiting certain forms of commerce. But the express exemption of lumber from the operation of the law, and the inclusion of coal, may taint the statute. The plea may be made that equal protection of the law is denied to similar corporations, and that thus the constitutional validity of the act is impaired.

Since the time that the prophets of Baal took a bullock and placed it on the altar and called upon the name of their god from morning until night, and "cried aloud and cut themselves, after their manner, with knives and lancets till the blood gushed out upon them," there has been no exhibition of a belief in incantation comparable to the approaching Interstate Prosperity Congress. This organized commercial faith cure is to be let loose upon us at the close of this week. The grotesqueness of the plan strikes foreign observers even more forcibly than it strikes our own unreflecting people. The Leipzig *Neueste Nachrichten* derides this flourish of trumpets to exorcise the evil spirits of commercial depression, and warns its readers against relying on an artificially induced prosperity, lest a still further recession in export trade follow. No one who knows the true psychological character of the gradual growth of mutual confidence, its liability to sudden chills, and its long periods of suspended animation, will ever take stock in its galvanic revival—even by the combined attempts of two organized bodies of commercial travellers. Prosperity is a maiden both shy and coy, not to be caught by the tom-tom and the sackbut and the bass drum. He does more to cajole her into reappearance who quietly saws wood and waits.

Gov. Magoon's jubilations upon the successful working of the new election law in Cuba seem to have been somewhat premature. That the contest passed off peacefully is solid ground for satisfaction, but the delay in the count because of the complications and technicalities of the law must be regarded as unfortunate. It was necessarily something of an experiment—this trying upon a politically inexperienced people like the Cubans an elaborate election scheme which was the outcome of years of trial and error by a sophisticated electorate like our own. The workings of the new statute will not be smooth and rapid until and unless the Cuban voter swings into the familiar grooves which eliminate friction. But the tardiness to proclaim officially the successful Governors and Mayors, while it may have been unavoidable, is likely to create a suspicion of official tampering with the ballot. The elections of the Governor of Santiago and the Mayor of Havana have already been protested by some of the parties.

On August 5, 1858, fifty years ago, the end of the first Atlantic cable was brought ashore at Trinity Bay, Newfoundland. But not until August 16, with the arrival of the first message from Queen Victoria to President Buchanan, did the real celebration begin. The church bells rang, factories blew their whistles, the river front was illuminated by fireworks and bonfires, there was a great procession. Mr. Field was well entitled to all the praise showered upon him. He had been dubbed a crazy man, had sacrificed his business, and had previously made two unsuccessful attempts to lay the cable. Unfortunately for all the rejoicings, for some unknown reason the cable stopped working just at the time of the great official celebration. For Mr. Field this meant doing the work over again. The old company had exhausted its means, a new one had to be formed, and fresh capital raised. The task was finally accomplished, by the aid of the Great Eastern, on September 8, 1866, after another failure in 1865. It is hard for the newspaper reader of to-day or the merchant, to realize what he owes to the cable, or to gauge the thrill that went through the whole world a half-century ago. In our time great inventions have followed so closely on one another's heels that the discovery of wireless telegraphy is but a week's wonder, and evokes no municipal dinner or civic parade. Even the record-breaking flight of the Zeppelin airship, which may figure in history as the real beginning of man's conquest of the air, is accepted,

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

with the telephone and a hundred other conveniences, as merely another and well-discounted triumph of science.

The disaster to Count Zeppelin's airship makes it evident that one of the most serious problems is to care for such a craft when it is suddenly compelled to face a heavy storm and descend. Giant balloon houses cannot be erected at every crossroads, and hills to hide behind are not always convenient. Moreover, if the airship has successfully landed, the lifting and pounding when it is on the ground in a breeze may knock it to pieces. The collapsible type has this advantage over the rigid-frame Zeppelin airship, that a length of 450 feet is not exposed to every wind that blows. This view, however, is in part opposed by Dr. Hugo Eckner, an expert who has been at Friedrichshafen during the Zeppelin experiments. Writing in the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, he argues that the rigid airship should have less trouble in reaching the ground than any other, because it responds more readily to its rudders, and when on the ground is more easily controlled. He thinks Zeppelin's greatest discovery, if one may so term it, is in finding that we need pay less attention to stability than had been believed hitherto; that a certain amount of instability makes for greater mobility and easier steering. Dr. Eckner points out, too, that aerial pilots have not yet had time or opportunity to develop a science of landing by experimenting. He suggests that there is a marked parallel here between the airship and the steamship. A new hand could not, of course, dock the Lusitania without disaster; and the captain of any steamer has to learn all of her little eccentricities of steering and of manœuvring before he can feel absolutely in control of her actions. This problem of acquiring knowledge in handling the airship in restricted spaces and in rising and in falling Dr. Eckner thinks serious; the anchoring and fastening of the ship, once it has landed, he regards as "altogether secondary." Whether his opinion will change, after last week's disaster, remains to be seen. Then, too, warm advocate of Zeppelin's type of airship that Dr. Eckner is, he is compelled to admit that there is a definite limit to the possibility of landing in a strong wind—just how strong is yet to be determined.

What has become of that dreadful weapon of mediæval times, Sir Walter Scott, and childhood days—excommunication by the Church? The outsider, one, that is, who stands outside of France and the Roman Catholic Church, finds it hard to follow the line of subtle distinctions which made it possible for M. Fallières, with the brand of excommunication on his brow, to witness his daughter's marriage sacrament in church as though he were one of his pious Breton fellow-citizens. With M. Fallières every French official concerned in the enactment of the Separation Law of 1905 was condemned, yet among the wedding guests on Monday were members of the present cabinet of persecution. Was the circumstance that they came as individuals, and not as a delegation, sufficient to raise the ban? If so, the Church was evidently making use of an instrument of offence to which nothing formidable but the name attaches. The reason for the attitude of tolerance assumed by the Church is that neither its leaders nor those of the State are prepared to go to extremes when it comes to uprooting century-old social habits in the nation. Some time ago M. Jaurès, for whom, if for any one in France after M. Combes, the stake and the fagots could consistently be revived, came in for bitter censure at the hands of the violent anti-clericals, because he had allowed his daughter to come up for confirmation. His reply in part was one that most Frenchmen would accept as final—it was the mother's desire, and the claims of affection outweighed those of consistency. On the other hand, as far as the Church is concerned, actually to deprive the entire ruling class in France of ritual marriage and interment might bring on undesirable consequences. But the outsider, as we have said, will regret the passing of the ancient awe of bell, book, and candle.

The predicted general strike has not come upon Paris. With the abortive strike of the electrical workers last week, it is made apparent that the General Confederation of Labor will be reduced to a state of comparative quiescence. That the government will carry out its threat of suppressing the Confederation altogether seems scarcely probable. That would be an attack on the principle of wage-earners' organization which a powerful party in Parliament would find it necessary to oppose. The General Confederation of Labor, representing the extreme wing of organized labor in France, has attempted to make up in violence what it lacks in numerical strength. The French labor unions have nothing like the huge membership of the English or German, but have been as revolutionary as the others have been pacific. Even in France, however, in general the revolutionary feeling shows signs of decline. When Parisians can regard a strike of electricians with equanimity, a strike which turns their *Ville Lumière* into an abode of darkness in which candles sputter on café tables and the theatres use lamps, the tyranny of labor is being shattered. A few weeks ago the president of the electricians' union, Pataud, *le roi Pataud*, as Paris calls him, announced his determination to lay down office and step back into the ranks. It may be that he foresaw hard times.

A people which bases its prosperity on a feather would seem to be even more unwise than the man who built his house upon the sands; but Cape Colony's ostrich industry has recently experienced a revival which shows that even so light and inconstant a thing as that which women wear in their hats may be subject to the same economic laws that control iron output and grain production. Ostrich-farming in the seventies of the last century yielded such enormous profits as to give rise to a world-wide ostrich boom. California, Australia, South Africa, and Algeria, all went into the business, with the result that prices fell. And just when it was growing possible for the humblest lady in the land to sit under her own ostrich feather, the boom burst—ostrich feathers passed out of style. In 1886 the Cape Colony growers petitioned Queen Victoria to exert herself in their behalf. But in the matter of feathers Hercules is no stronger than a child and a queen than an ordinary woman. Only generals and other gorgeous persons wore ostrich feathers, until, a few years ago, the cycle closed and the plumes came in again. Since then Cape Colony has prospered. In 1907 it exported seven million dollars' worth. But to guard against future competition the government has laid an export tax of $500 on every ostrich and $25 on every egg.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

WHY INDEPENDENTS FAVOR TAFT.

The Republican Congressional Campaign Committee has offered a prize for the best essay proving that Mr. Taft and the party whose candidate he is should be returned to power next November. In all the seven thousand manuscripts said to have been submitted not one, we fear, will set forth the predicament which confronts voters on whom party ties sit but lightly, or will explain the motives that will probably actuate them in casting their ballots.

To the matter-of-fact man of a practical turn, the matter resolves itself into a choice between Mr. Taft and his Democratic opponent. Such a person would tell us good-naturedly that of the two evils the lesser is to be chosen, unmindful of the fact that sometimes the best rule is: "Of two evils, choose neither." The alternative is not simply between Mr. Taft and Mr. Bryan, but between either of them and "firing into the air" as a protest against further toleration of either of the two old parties. To hardened politicians or even such "practical men" as Mr. Roosevelt, such refining savors of weakness. But it is to just such weakness that the Republican party owed its origin when the Whigs could not be brought to take a definite stand on the Free Soil issue. It hardly behooves them, therefore, to make light of the ancestry of their own party.

It is quite true that at the present juncture a *via media* seems hard to find. The minor parties command as little confidence as the two large organizations; and to disfranchise one's self in order to make a political protest is indeed a desperate remedy. Had the Democratic party showed any signs of quickening integrity, the situation would be different. But apparently it has a name to live but is dead, benumbed by the volatile persuasiveness of Mr. Bryan's tongue. He himself is as unstable as water. If under such conditions, the independent voter inclines to vote for Mr. Taft, he comforts himself with the following considerations:

First, Taft represents the less venal wing of the Republican party. No one who understands the complexion of that party fails to realize wherein the venality of many of its leaders consists. Such men as Aldrich, Cannon, Depew, and Platt are simply brokers in Legislation, the agents of corporate and partisan interests. To them politics is simply one kind of yellow finance. Places, jobs, and favors bound their political horizon. They "stand pat" because they have about reached the point where no change can give them and their friends a better chance at the public trough. Fortunately the earlier traditions of the party have lodged within its membership a few men of finer clay. Mr. Taft himself belongs to the unsmirched element. This fact qualifies the reluctance which independent voters feel in contemplating his election.

In the second place, the frankness of Mr. Taft's recent utterances in the matter of class legislation is decidedly in his favor. He does not preach obedience to law to the manual toiler with his tongue and suggest sedition by the shrug of his shoulder. He has not minced matters in reference to the boycott. He has come out boldly in defence of the equal rights of unorganized labor. He has scored the violence of strikers. He has stood up calmly and manfully for the integrity of the equity powers of the courts. He has refused to be stampeded by passionate assaults upon the judicial system. He has mercilessly exposed the double-faced insincerity of his opponent's platform in the matter of injunctions. He has declined to be caught by the seductive proposal of a State guarantee of bank deposits. All of these declarations are so distinctly in his favor, that as between Taft and Bryan the balance is well in favor of the Republican candidate.

It is unfortunately true that he accepts some of the impostures that are traditional in his party's camp. He knows that the Republican doctrine of protection—that duties should equal the difference in the money cost of production here and abroad—is fallacious; that a two-cent duty on raw sugar grown abroad to make up for the disability of the pampered beet-sugar producer in this country is a double tax on every consumer; that it takes more out of his pocket than ever finds its way into the public treasury. Mr. Taft knows well enough that the tariff is a hedge behind which the monopolist hides to rob the buyer. He knows also the public perfidy that secured control over the Panama region—and yet he palliates, if he does not condone, that act of Punic faith. These considerations which cannot be avoided make the independent voter at least fearful of what inroads adherence to his party and his late official chief may have wrought in Mr. Taft's native integrity of purpose.

One final consideration which weighs in his favor is his temperamental contrast to the present Chief Executive. He has a judicial training which Mr. Roosevelt has not. He has patient administrative capacity which Mr. Roosevelt has not. He measures his words as Mr. Roosevelt does not. Doubtless, Mr. Taft would disclaim these points of superiority. But on that score we may all rest easy. In the continuance of the Roosevelt policies where they are sane, serviceable, and just, no backward step will be expected of Mr. Taft, if elected. But we are ready for peace. We are ready for a resumption of the dignity of Washington and the urbanity of McKinley. If Mr. Taft will take the Presidency and not the world for his parish, our best wishes will go with him.

THE CAUSE OF FREE TRADE.

The meeting of the International Free Trade Congress at London last week sets the mind travelling a long way back and a long way forward. The doctrine of free trade has been fairly before the world for discussion since Adam Smith published "The Wealth of Nations," in 1776. There for the first time the theory was stated in fairly complete and popular form. The thesis which he supported so skilfully is this:

> In every country it always is and must be the interest of the great body of the people to buy whatever they want of those who sell it cheapest. The proposition is so very manifest that it seems ridiculous to take any pains to prove it; nor could it ever have been called in question, had not the interested sophistry of merchants and manufacturers confounded the common sense of mankind.

In discussing further "Restraints upon Importation," he tells us that "the sneaking acts of underling tradesmen" have been "erected into political maxims for the conduct of a great empire." As to the effect of protection on the relations between nations, what Smith said more than one hundred and thirty years ago is as true as ever:

> Commerce, which ought naturally to be, among nations as among individuals, a bond of union and friendship, has become the most fertile source of discord and animosity. The rapacious ambition of kings and ministers has not, during the present and the preceding century, been more fatal to

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

the repose of Europe than the impertinent jealousy of merchants and manufacturers.

But in spite of the clearness with which Smith expounded the idea and the vigor with which his successors maintained it, antiquated notions of international commerce held their own in England until a combination of economic force and moral indignation overthrew them. It was the suffering in the "hungry forties" that lent power to the words of Richard Cobden, John Bright, and Ebenezer Elliott, the "corn-law rhymer." The economic argument against an impost on foodstuffs had been fully comprehended by statesmen for more than fifty years; but the entrenched protected interests, in England then as in America to-day, held the country by the throat. It was only when men were starving that the mass of voters could be brought to see that the bread tax had "its maw like the grave." Thus the free trade agitation developed into something far higher and more passionate than a discussion of abstract principles of commerce and finance; it became a part of that larger humanitarian movement which began in the eighteenth century and is still far from spent. It was the humanitarian aspect of the matter, the appeal to spiritual motives, that fired Cobden's zeal. He was disgusted by what Adam Smith had called "the mean rapacity, the monopolizing spirit, of merchants and manufacturers"; he was sickened by the animosities engendered between mighty nations that should dwell in amity; he was horrified by the living death of England's poor. "So convinced am I," he wrote, "that there is no other mode of raising the condition of the working classes in the scale of morality or religion, whilst they are denied by act of Parliament a sufficiency of food, that I have set apart as much of my income as I can spare from other claims for the purpose of effecting the abolition of the Corn Law and Provision Law." Thus England's impulse toward free trade may be fairly described as the setting up of an ideal of liberty and justice in place of monopoly and greed.

The reaction toward protection in England has been possible only because the generation that bred the champions of free trade has passed from the stage. Cobden, Bright, and Gladstone are gone, and with them much of the ardent temper of the old Liberalism. The victory seemed to be completely won, the soldiers were resting on their arms, and young England had forgotten or perhaps never knew the issues that once raised such hopes and fears. Taking advantage of this apathy or ignorance, the merchants and manufacturers who are afraid to compete on even terms with the world, and would tax a whole people for the sake of private profit, have made their compact with the Conservative leaders and captured the organization of the party. But in spite of the money that may be poured out to secure special privileges for the few, it is hardly credible that Great Britain will again revert to the half-civilized policy that she long since abandoned.

In this country we yet have a hard road to travel before we reach free trade, or even the nearer stage of a tariff for revenue only. We are and shall remain large producers of grain and meat; and it is therefore unlikely that we shall be driven to free trade, as England was, by the pangs of the millions. The economic argument is still irrefutable; but, while men are earning a fair wage, are fed, and comfortably clad and housed, they are indifferent to general principles. Too many of us hear only the cry of the belly. The evils most apparent here and most likely to touch the popular imagination are the growth of vast monopolies under the shelter of the tariff and the wholesale corruption of our political life. Here the Democrats have had a notable opportunity to press for reform; but in the last three campaigns they have thrown it away, partly because they were stupid, partly because their own hands have not been clean. No justification can be urged for a tariff which permits the Steel Trust to sell its product more cheaply abroad than at home—to mulct every user of steel in this country for the sake of paying dividends on its watered stock. Still more perilous to our institutions is the open traffic in legislation. The protected interests have bought and sold Representatives and Senators like cattle. They have dealt with both sides. When Cleveland was contending for tariff reform, Democrats like Gorman of Maryland deliberately betrayed the cause; and when Republicans have favored a reduction of the tariff they have been thwarted by an Aldrich or a Cannon. The poison of class legislation has run through all the veins of the commonwealth. Protection taints our State Legislatures and even our municipal governments, and debauches whole electorates. In every branch of politics it has tended to make sheer brute commercialism the motive of action and the test of success. And yet neither of our great parties dares to fight it in earnest.

THE PRIMARY NO CURE-ALL.

There is a mixture of ingenuousness and deceit in the complaints of the defects in the direct primary brought out in the recent elections in Kansas, Oregon, Missouri, and Illinois. There are those who really believed that the new institution would be a panacea for all our political ills; that it would, like a magnet, draw every recalcitrant voter to the polls, where he would promptly put the rascals to flight and inaugurate an era of political purity. These innocents are now voicing their disappointment that the primary does not prevent fraud, and that in many cases, the voter being as indifferent to his new opportunity as he was to his old, the noxious machines, party and personal, are not yet completely smashed. On the other hand, the politicians are only too happy to have their doubts about the new law; they can see a hundred objections to it, and are suddenly displaying an altogether amusing solicitude for the sanctity of the ballot and the free expression of the party's will.

From all accounts the primary was seen at its best in Kansas. There, as elsewhere, the candidates were compelled to go before the people. They met, as did Lincoln and Douglas fifty years ago, in joint debates of great length, answering questions freely and giving full accounts of themselves and their political principles. The result was a vindication of our democratic theory of government; the people chose as their servants the men whom they believed to be freest from the domination of corporations and politicians. Moreover, the interest taken was so keen that from Kansas come no such complaints of small attendance as are heard in Missouri and Illinois. Either Kansans are more patriotic, of a better type of citizenship, or their political grievances are more deeply felt. Be that as it may, they showed their intelligence precisely as did the Oregon voters who selected from a handbook of 125 pages the several dozen propositions that pleased

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

them most and gave the best exhibition of a discriminating electorate this triumphant democracy has seen in many a year. These Oregonians chose a Democrat to represent them in Washington because they knew him as Governor and preferred him as Senator to any of the candidates of the ruling Republican party. This is in itself an amazing achievement which the primary alone made possible.

If the vote was small in Illinois, it was not because of any lack of zeal on the part of the candidates. In that State, as in Tennessee and Kansas, there was not a passage of their records that was not published to the world. There was even an attempt to hold Gov. Deneen responsible for the accidental burning of a boy in a public institution. He was able to defend himself, however, by proving that it was against a radiator put in by his antagonist, ex-Gov. Yates, that the unfortunate child fell. Had it been a Deneen radiator it would have been properly safeguarded! Naturally, when the issues are so trivial, there were many stay-at-homes. In Missouri, the complaint of non-attendance and of other defects seems general. It is thus voiced by the St. Louis *Times*, an excellent independent newspaper:

> The people, as usual, were in the hands of the machine as to the cities. Later returns will be needed to show the relation of the country vote to the popular idea. Altogether, the new primary law is a disappointment and small credit to its framers. Its complications are the least of the objections that may be charged to it. There are no safeguards for the purpose of eliminating the bosses and no element to attract the activity of the people. It is not what it was meant to be—a party vote for nominees—but a scramble in which Republicans may become Democrats for a day if they have no business of their own on hand. In some places Democrats voted Republican tickets for local reasons, and in others. . . . Republicans stepped in and helped the Democrats. . . . In St. Louis thousands were disfranchised yesterday because of their inactivity. They failed to register; others who were registered failed to reach the polls.

The *Post-Dispatch* and *Republic* take a similar view. But the *Times* sees truly that, aside from certain obvious defects, capable of remedy, the responsibility for the outcome rests with the people:

> Under the new order the people cannot resort to the old trick of blaming the bosses. They will find the fault within their own household.

The primary is thus at its worst a means of fixing more clearly than ever upon the voter his responsibility for the welfare of his government. In St. Louis, not less than 63,000 voters, more than 50 per cent. of the city electorate, refused to go to the polls. In Illinois the vote is reported to be so small as to give no true indication of the real strength of the two great parties; only one-third of the Chicago voters turned out. The "advisory vote" for United States Senator aroused little interest, and, as in Oregon, the defeated candidates are now insisting that the Legislature is in no way bound by the outcome of the Senatorial referendum. When we look south, however, to Georgia and Tennessee, it is undeniable that there at least, in the defeat of Gov. Hoke Smith, and of ex-Senator Carmack, the popular will was expressed beyond any doubt.

Serious defects the primary law has, chief among them the ability of Democrats to vote in Republican primaries and *vice versa*. A Republican may assert that he has experienced a change of political faith and participate in a Democratic primary, and yet there is nothing whatever, except his conscience, to prevent his voting for Republicans when he takes his secret ballot on election day. The State cannot make a voter in a primary stick to that party in the election without restricting him in his right to bolt the ticket if his own primary chooses a man he thinks unfit. But granting all this and more besides, the primary remains, we believe, the best weapon against the boss yet invented, and the desire for it shows no signs of abatement. It must come in New York before long; the bosses' opposition to it is its best recommendation. They are well aware that if New York had this institution to-day, they could not for a moment stand in the way of the nomination of Gov. Hughes; that if they did so, they would be snowed under at the polls. Because Gov. Hughes favors direct nominations is one reason why he is hated by the bosses. The Governor knows, of course, that the primary is no cure-all; it is but another means of maintaining government by the people. The voter may neglect it, if he is as indifferent to his trust as heretofore; but if he is roused and in earnest, he can destroy the politicians who attempt to undo him.

SENATOR ALLISON.

When William B. Allison entered Congress, in March, 1863, at the age of thirty-four years, nobody would have predicted for the quiet, unpretentious young man from Iowa the astonishing record of forty-three years of Congressional service which lay before him. It was his fortune to make a Senatorial record surpassing in duration that of any of his contemporaries. He became the "father of the Senate" several years ago, and if his life had been spared to complete the term for which he had already been provisionally chosen, his period of continuous service would have exceeded that of any other Senator from the beginning of the Government till now.

It was not in a halcyon time that Senator Allison played his part. When he first entered the House the civil war was raging; the battle of Gettysburg had not yet been fought. When he entered the Senate the struggle over reconstruction was at its height. Then the currency question became paramount, and the proposal to "pay the bonds with greenbacks" was contested for several years. In this controversy even Senator Sherman turned up on the wrong side. Next in order was the silver problem, and here again Mr. Sherman (now Secretary of the Treasury) proved rather feeble. Then came the resumption of specie payments, as to which there was some hesitation on Sherman's part, although his Congressional record is unblemished. From that time to the present, financial questions have held a great place in legislation and in forensic discussion; and here Senator Allison found ample room for the exercise of his abilities, natural and acquired. It is not too much to say that on that range of debate he was the equal of Sherman while the latter lived, and was his superior on the two critical occasions named. After Sherman's death, he was the leader of the Senate in questions of this kind, although the chairmanship of the Committee on Finance was held by another; for Senator Allison preferred that of Appropriations, which is really the more important of the two.

The most conspicuous act of Mr. Allison's Senatorial career was that by which he caused the abortion of Bland's free silver bill. That measure passed the House by a majority of more than two-thirds. Its effect, if it had become

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

a law, would have been to make silver the sole standard of value, although its supporters disclaimed any such intention, and affirmed that it would merely restore the former double standard of gold and silver. In the prevailing ignorance and passion of the day, it was evident that Bland's bill would pass the Senate by as large a vote relatively as it received in the House, unless some way could be devised to substitute a less dangerous but more plausible measure. Senator Allison was the man who accomplished this feat, and thus saved the country from the tremendous catastrophe and turmoil that must have ensued from the sudden change of prices, the scaling of debts, and the partial repudiation of contracts, public and private. His substitute for the Bland bill provided that instead of the unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1—which would have given an enormous profit to the holders and producers of silver bullion, in all parts of the world—the Government itself should purchase bullion at its market price and coin it into dollars and use these dollars for paying its own debts or purchasing more bullion. This argument for checkmating speculators and saving money for the Government was irresistible. Allison's amendment passed the Senate by a safe majority. Bland perceived at once that his measure was disembowelled, and he made a stout fight against the Senate amendment, but the House concurred, and he was compelled to eat his opponent's leek by voting for the bill with the Allison amendment. Coupled with the latter was a clause authorizing the President to invite the cooperation of other nations in an international monetary conference, the Paris conference of 1878. This also was Allison's conception, his aim being to gain time for the passing away of the silver craze, which, however, lasted acutely fifteen years longer, when President Cleveland caused the repeal of the silver purchasing act. For saving the country from its worst consequences at that time the honors may be fairly divided between Allison and Cleveland.

Senator Allison was a most useful party leader and public servant. His services were not of the kind that are writ large in the newspapers. They did not serve as material for stump speeches, but they made their due impression on his colleagues. It fell to his lot to hold the purse-strings of the national Government. Nobody reaches this distinction unless he has first earned the confidence of his fellow Senators. This confidence was slowly acquired, was fully deserved, and was never forfeited. It was the belief of both houses and of all departments of the Government that the chairman of the Committee on Appropriations was honest and economical, but not stingy; that he knew how to refuse as well as how to give, and that he knew when to postpone and when to hasten any desired expenditure. Such qualities of mind and character involve the accumulation of a vast amount of detail and of figures extending over the whole scope of Governmental affairs; and these were possessed by Senator Allison in a wonderful way, although few persons ever took him for a prodigy of statistics unless they had an amendment to a money bill pending in Congress. Then, if there was a vulnerable point in their claim, they would find that the chairman of the committee had discovered it.

Mr. Allison was a fairly good debater, though not a great orator. He was not a leader in the sense of taking position in advance of his party or of the average public opinion of his State. He was not a believer in protective tariffs, but since the public sentiment of his State was strongly in favor of that policy, he did not see why he should go out of public life by antagonizing it. A hundred instances could be found in his career where he veered with the winds that blew across Iowa, although not upon questions which in his opinion involved fundamental principles of morality. His sagacity in knowing the present and divining the future state of the public mind was unsurpassed. Not otherwise could he have held so long the confidence of the great State whose Senator he was. His personal qualities were attractive, his kindness of heart genuine and unaffected, and he was as free from ostentation as he was impervious to flattery.

THE HIGHER FOOLISHNESS.

"Can we have good government?" is the question raised by Attorney-General Bonaparte in *The World To-day* for August. In discussing this burning question, Mr. Bonaparte reminds us—by contrast—of Matthew Arnold. When that Oxford poet and social critic, whom certain of his own countrymen designated as a "high priest of the kid-glove persuasion," visited our shores some years ago and talked to us about the dangers of a democracy, and the necessity of listening to our higher selves, we listened to him with mild derision. We condescended to him as an emissary from the "home of lost causes" to the home of triumphant causes. We believed that all his fine talk about sweetness and light was the amiable moonshine of an unpractical dreamer. We chimed in with his English critics who kept exclaiming, "Why don't you *do* something?" If there is one thing, that, as a people, we abominate more than another, it is the man who refuses to put his shoulder to our wheel, but insists on standing by and talking about a better wheel of his own. Mr. Bonaparte is perfectly free from that unpopular and unpractical taint which characterized Matthew Arnold, and which is now known in university circles as the "higher foolishness."

To the question whether we can have good government Mr. Bonaparte answers only indirectly. But of one thing he is sure—we can never have it from the dreams of political Utopians. It is all very well to talk about your "favorite panacea," but the one thing needful is to act. "The beauties visible to the eye of faith in the more or less distant day of its practical acceptance in nowise help us to deal with the scoundrel, etc." Though Mr. Bonaparte seems to make an honest effort to do justice to the possible future usefulness of those who are in pursuit of perfection, it is obviously a difficult task for him:

> In no small measure the "d—n literary fellers" *have* "gone into politics," though not precisely as the politicians would understand the term, and the results of their doing so are good for them and good for the American people.

But—and this is the burden of his message—our salvation is not in their hands. We can have good government only from the hands of those who, "letting Utopia take care of itself," vigorously and unceasingly *act*. Though this message is rather strongly reminiscent of another practical reformer with whom Mr. Bonaparte has been associated, it does express pretty well the common feeling that there is not much place in our society for the Miltonic servant who only stands and waits.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

There is one weak spot in Mr. Bonaparte's armor. The great obstacle to reform, he admits, is that the "nation, State, or city does not wish hard enough for good government to make bad government impossible." Why not? Simply because a democracy is made up of middling good people muddling along a middling good path which they have made for themselves, and from which they are extremely hard to divert. Simply because to the whole-souled democrat the pursuit of perfection is the higher foolishness. The practical reformer reckons with the self-satisfaction of the multitude. He attempts few radical changes, because he knows that the multitude is naturally averse to innovation. He is satisfied if he gains a little here and a little there. He justifies his means by his end. He does not hesitate to use bad men. He dares to do because he does *not* dare to dream. He compromises with every one till in the end he compromises with himself. The hand of the dyer is subdued to that wherein he works. Finally he passes, even among his former friends, for a half-Machiavelli. It is men like this that cast discredit on the whole cause of reform, and weaken in city, State, and nation the propelling wish for good government.

It is at this point in the career of the "practical reformer" that we begin to value the apostle of the higher foolishness who only waits and dreams. We begin to see that the vital wish proceeds out of his capacity for falling violently in love with what he never expects to possess. We cease to despise his Utopianism when we recognize that in it thrives the overmastering desire for perfection which is the mainspring of all practical reform. We may hate him because he wishes us to abandon the easy ways that we like for the difficult ways that we do not like; but at the same time we are flattered by his faith in our better selves. In these reforming days how many reforms have flagged and failed because the leaders have thought the people worse than they really are? Misled by a belief in the badness and tolerance of their fellowmen, the short-sighted leader thinks it unnecessary to keep his garments "unspotted from the world." Even the people have enough of the higher foolishness to refuse to be reformed by men who are as bad or worse than they are themselves. It is not that they think bad men incapable of good work; it is that their sheer pigheadedness or idealism kills the desire for good work if it must come from bad hands. It is not conceit of their own virtue, nor hypocrisy; it is the Falstaffian humor—if ever I am drunk again, it shall be with gentlemen and God-fearing men, and not with drunken knaves. It is more than that; it is a lurking conviction that a democracy can improve itself only by entrusting its destinies to those who represent its faith and not its practice, and will dare to hold it up to the level of its highest discontent.

To preserve this is the special function of the higher foolishness. It is a thankless task, but indispensable to the man who acts and to the people. We need the apostles of the higher foolishness to preserve us against the wisdom of parties and the lower foolishness of the average man. It is their business to commit political suicide to encourage the others—to go down with the ship rather than give it up. When they cannot have what they want, it is their business to take nothing at all. By repeatedly demonstrating how single-mindedly they desire what they cannot have, they gradually enhance its value in the eyes of others, and so through them the rest grow slowly wise.

TURKEY AND HER NATIONALITIES.

The Turkish revolutionary party, like most men and parties in the moment of high and unexpected triumph, shows signs of being carried off its feet. Already the people of Constantinople have forced the resignation of the first constitutional cabinet, because the ministers have in the past stood too close to the old order. An attack on the life of the Sultan is reported. Whether this account be true or not, it indicates that the more violent elements among the progressives are coming to the front. This is a misfortune from which the Turkish nation might invoke the Prophet to be spared. For nothing is more sure than that revolutionary excess, at a time when the foundations of liberty are as yet insecure, will lead to reaction. Discussion as to the Sultan's sincerity is at the present moment only wasted effort. Sincere or not, he has been driven into making certain popular concessions. To offer him no valid reason for repentance is for the moment the best policy. He has given something. He may give more. But if he be asked to give up all, he will be moved, like his brother the Czar, to take back all. The forces of reaction do not die at once. The Sultan could undoubtedly rally a powerful party to his support if the break should come. He would have the old officials, part of the army, his ancient spiritual authority, and his personal craft. And finally the diverse character of the opposition would count in his favor. At dividing and ruling he is an old hand.

The problem which must now be worked out in Abdul Hamid's Empire involves more than a mere transition from Oriental autocracy to modern parliamentary government. The factors of race and religion enter into the question to a degree unprecedented in the history of constitutional government. Austria-Hungary, it is true, can show a racial complexity of population equal to Turkey's. But in Austria-Hungary there is no additional severing line of religion; and as it is, the troubles of parliamentarism under the Hapsburgs have become notorious. During Russia's brief career under a constitutional form of government, the racial factor has been brought prominently to the front. In Poland the Czar may be said to have a larger Macedonia of his own. The Jewish question has been important; and there are Mohammedan deputies in the Duma. But in Russia, too, the religious element has remained one of minor importance, in spite of the government's attempt to represent Christianity as endangered by the liberal movement. If faiths other than the Christian are to be formed or tolerated in Russia, it can be only at the will of the vast Christian majority. In Turkey, on the other hand, Christian deputies will constitute the parliamentary minority under a constitution based on the Koran. That minority in turn will comprise the various nationalities, Greek, Bulgarian, and Serb, which have been carrying on civil war in Macedonia, as well as Armenian and Syrian Christians. Start with such original elements of strife, add the inevitable antagonism between Christian and Mussulman, add the struggle between Parliament and the inevitable reaction, and Turkey's course apparently lies in no smooth waters.

In Europe, Asia Minor, Syria, Meso-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

potamia, Armenia, and Kurdistan, the only parts of the empire in which the authority of Constantinople is still effectively exerted, the Sultan's subjects number some twenty-two millions, of whom between six and seven millions are Christians. There may be a million Jews in the empire. The rest of the population is Mohammedan. In European Turkey the Christians and Mohammedans are about equal in number. In Asia over two-thirds of the population is Mohammedan. Besides being divided on racial lines, the Christian population shows within its ranks no less than eight recognized creeds—the Latins, or Roman Catholics; the Greeks; the Bulgarians, under the exarch at Constantinople; the Armenians; the Syrians; the Maronites of Mount Lebanon; the Nestorians; and the Protestant converts in Armenia. The Jews may come to exercise influence far beyond their numerical strength, because of the new aspect lent by the constitutional revolution to the problem of Zionism and Palestine, a question in which the world at large is bound to take deep interest. Already we have had a dispatch stating that the Young Turkish leaders are willing to turn over Palestine to the Jews. This, of course, is a manifest absurdity, since to avert the threatened dismemberment of the empire has been the aim and professed object of the Turkish patriotic party; and they would be the last to consent to the erection of an autonomous state in Asia Minor or Mesopotamia. Yet the report may have described correctly enough a heightened condition of hope among the Zionist leaders. That increased effort on their part will do their own cause, or the cause of Turkish constitutionalism, any good, is, however, exceedingly doubtful.

For here the example of Russia becomes highly instructive. It is primarily by representing the supporters of constitutional reform as enemies of the country that reaction in Russia has succeeded in winning the upper hand over the forces of progress. It was "foreigners"—Jews, Poles, Armenians, Letts, subsidized, of course, by English money—that were bent on overthrowing the Czar and dismembering the empire. Hence came the need of that famous organization of True Russian People to defend Czar and country against the pernicious plottings of the "foreigner." Hence followed the entire system of governing by massacre and civil war. The Czar's government has not hesitated to stir up Tartars against Armenians, Russian peasants against Jews, Lettish peasants against Germans. Racial hatred has been erected into an instrument of government which the Czar and his ministers are justified in regarding as superbly effective. Would the Sultan hesitate to use similar means? Driven to the wall, it is obvious that he would not. Is he not past master in the very art; may he not, in fact, claim the credit for first applying, in the case of the Armenians, the method which Russia has employed and developed to such a fine point of efficiency? The material, as we have pointed out, lies plenty and ready to hand. Mohammedan against Christian, Armenian against Kurd, Bulgarian, Greek, and Serb all against one another—let any one of these elements offer him an opening for invoking the old party hatreds, and reaction in Turkey may triumph as it has done in Russia. It is a situation which the not uninterested attitudes of the European Powers will help still more to complicate.

SOCIAL REVOLUTION AND SOCIOLOGY IN FRANCE.

PARIS, July 23.

The new book of Georges Sorel "Réflexions sur la violence" throws a strong light on the actual tendencies of younger French thought. Within a very few years this author has taken a unique place as philosopher of the proletariat; but his clear, ardent phrase finds eager listeners even among those who dream of an equally excessive counter-revolution. This writer, in middle age, left the *bourgeois* post for which his scientific education fitted him, to think out and proclaim his solution of the social problem. He begins with the recognition of a fact: Two classes are at war in civilized society, the *bourgeoisie*, or property-holders, and the proletariat, or those who live on the wages which they earn by working for the *bourgeois*. Georges Sorel stands with the second and philosophizes for their triumph. To use the labels of present doctrines, he belongs heart and soul to revolutionary "Syndicalism," which would restore all things by reorganizing society into professional groups (trade unions) of free producers. This is nearer to anarchy than to political Socialism. In fact, M. Sorel's first principle in practice is to repudiate all thought of the future collectivist society, of which Jaurès perorates so boyishly—"for there is no scientific process to foresee the future or even to discuss which hypothesis is better than the others." The only question here and now is to find weapons to make sure of the proletariat's victory in the present war.

Only the general strike can do this—or rather "the idea of the general strike, which is a motor point dragging after it in the revolutionary furrow whatever it touches." That there is no possibility of realizing a general strike is of not the slightest importance. The first Christians had strength from their idea of an impending catastrophe to come about before this generation shall pass away—the ruin of the pagan world by Christ's return and the establishment of the kingdom of the saints. The catastrophe never came, nor were the hopes of Luther and Calvin realized among the peoples swept by their central idea into the Reformation. Even "the true developments of the French Revolution in no wise resemble the enchanting pictures which stirred the enthusiasm of its first adepts—but without such pictures could the Revolution have conquered?" Such social myths are a means "for acting on the present, and any discussion as to how they are to be applied materially to the course of history is meaningless." The general strike is a social myth of the greatest power; it gathers into itself all the aspirations of Socialism. In all great movements of men strength dwells in the sublime, the superhuman; and the sublime is evolved completely only in times of violent struggle. So the Syndicalist movement, on the myth of the general strike, sweeps forward to violence—"the sublime and beneficent violence" which shall draw the masses in its train. For the people to be and to remain revolutionary, it is necessary that they should be thoroughly impregnated with the idea of the struggle of classes; and this idea can be maintained only among those who are touched by the idea of the general strike. Those who have given kindly attention to the career of Georges Sorel will see in all this the outcome of the successive stages of his thought as manifested in his earlier works on the ruin of the ancient world, Renan's system of history, and his own essay on Church and State; while his central thought flows straight from the "Evolution créatrice" of Prof. Henri-Louis Bergson. So does recondite philosophy, unknown and disdained of the crowd, suddenly make irruption into the arena of our world.

Two small volumes, which Sorel would flout as utopian, appear under the name of Anatole France. "Vers les temps meilleurs" has some of the old charm which had too long disappeared in the acrid Dreyfusism that drove the master into social utopias; the edition,

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

illustrated by artists of revolutionary power like Steinlen, appears consistently in the cheap popular Bibliothèque sociale et philosophique. With a preface by Anatole France, Edouard Héberlin-Darcy publishes a sociological study, "Esquisse d'une société collectiviste"—a brief picture of the good time coming. The book has had already a sale of more than ten thousand.

Among recent French works in the field of sociology may be mentioned "Œuvres sociales des femmes," in which Paul Acker, an experienced bookmaker, treats popularly of organizations in aid of working women in Paris—for wives, children, young working girls, and families. Silvain Rondès, in "L'Homme qui réussit," explains the concretest thing in sociology—the man who succeeds. His previous book—"How a Man Makes His Way in the World"—had the immense sale for France of 60,000 copies, and was widely translated. "Sociologie de l'action," by Eugène de Roberty, is a quite opposite sort of book. It is supposedly scientific, and certainly abounds in broad and easy generalizations, which, however, have all the air of nicely balanced abstractions such as are never realized in this nature of things. The book treats of "the social genesis of reason, and the rational origins of action." "Syndicalisme et socialisme," a compact pamphlet by the authorities in the case, sums up the situation on the Continent of that revolutionary trade unionism which is already dictating terms to political Socialism. Italy is described by Arturo Labriola, Russia by Boris Kritchewsky, Germany by Robert Michels, and France by Hubert Lagardelle. The characters of French Syndicalism are discussed by Victor Grieffuelhes, leader of the General Labor Confederation, which is able to exercise compulsion over the French Republic. An appendix handles the burning question of the relations existing between anarchy and Syndicalism. A. Weber in "A Travers la mutualité," makes a critical study of those private mutual aid or "friendly" societies which have taken such deep root in France, but are now threatened by Socialist plans for a monopolizing state assistance and by old age pensions. This aggressive change in the fundamental idea of the uses of the "state"—the community as organized—is studied in its principles in "Le Droit social, le droit individuel, et la transformation de l'état" by Léon Duguit, professor of law in the University of Bordeaux.

S. D.

Correspondence.

THE TEST OF RAILWAY MANAGEMENT.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: I quote from a paragraph in the *Nation* of July 30, anent the proposition of certain railway administrations to advance the rates for the carriage of freight:

> But, says the railway manager, there are only three ways in which a road can aid itself when times are bad: by lopping off all expenses that are not absolutely necessary, by lowering wages, or by raising rates.

I must say that all this seems to me beside the real question, which is in my judgment, "Why should the railroads need to aid themselves?"

We have seen for a number of years on practically all the roads of the country large surplus earnings annually, which, but for lavish and in too many cases extravagant expenditures and too often increased dividends for stock-jobbing purposes, might have been still larger, which are now needed and should be available for regular dividends without "lowering wages." The prudent business man always anticipates seasons of depression and provides for them by accumulating during the seasons of prosperity. The trouble with the railways is that "lopping off all expenses that are not absolutely necessary" does not begin soon enough and ends too soon. The true test of any business is the result of operation over a period of years, not over one or two at any particular time; and the business that cannot show on this basis an adequate return on capital invested must stand condemned for poor management. Said a prominent banker to me a few weeks ago, "When a man asking accommodation tells me how much money he made last year, I ask him to give me a statement for the past ten years."

While it may be that trade unions have forced up the rate of wages in many instances beyond the reasonable norm, I question if railway employees are, considering the character and the responsibility attending many of their duties, much if at all at the present time overpaid, and it is of course paramount that some rate be established upon the stability of which such employees can depend if we would avoid at all the annoyances and losses incident to strikes. I affirm that no railway administration can justify itself which cannot show for a given period of say twenty years, earnings sufficient to pay to its employees a stable rate of wages and to its stockholders a fair return upon their investment.

Charles C. Curtiss.

Chicago, August 1.

THE DIFFUSION OF LITERARY KNOWLEDGE.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: Will you permit me to exclaim "Eureka!" in your columns. Ever since, years ago, a friend told me, with solemn disclaimers of all intention to hoax, that a young lady of Providence, R. I., had entered a bookshop in quest of Scott's "Emulsion" and had spent some time endeavoring with the clerk's aid to find a copy, I have been in hopes that I might secure a parallel story with its scene laid in the mother country. My opportunity came this afternoon. As I was walking up Southampton Row, I was overtaken by a respectable young British woman of about one and twenty and a boy, apparently her brother, of about thirteen. The boy had evidently seen an advertisement bearing the name "Waverley" and had mentioned—I trust gratefully—the name of Sir Walter. The young woman, just as she passed me, corrected him with a fair amount of magisterial dignity: "No, Scott didn't write 'Waverley'—that was Shakespeare." After this, who can say that the Baconians have it all their own way, or that Swift—it was surely Swift—who gave the Wife of Bath to Shakespeare, perhaps married her to Falstaff—did not leave descendants? Your relieved reader, Con. Tridente.

London, July 27.

Notes.

Scribner's list of fiction for the autumn includes "The Trail of the Lonesome Pine," by John Fox, jr.; "Kincaid's Battery," by George W. Cable; "Peter," by F. Hopkinson Smith; "Salthaven," W. W. Jacobs; "The Wind in the Reeds," Kenneth Grahame; and "The Coming Harvest" (Le Blé qui lève), René Bazin. The same firm will publish "Out-of-Doors in the Holy Land," by Henry van Dyke; "Chateau and Country Life in France," by Mary King Waddington; "A Motor Flight Through France," by Edith Wharton; "The Other Americans," especially the people of South America, Arthur Ruhl; "English Voyages of Adventure and Discovery," retold from Hakluyt, by Edwin M. Bacon; "Poem Outlines of Sidney Lanier," fragments and outlines of poems left by Lanier and never before published; "Privileged Classes," a volume of essays by Prof. Barrett Wendell; "In a New Century," essays by E. S. Martin; "Robert E. Lee: The Southerner," Thomas Nelson Page; "History of Contemporary Civization," by Charles Seignobos, translated by Prof. A. H. Wilde; "German Education: Past and Present," by Prof. Friedrich Paulsen, translated by T. Lorenz; "Footsteps in a Parish," an appreciation of Maltbie Davenport Babcock, by the Rev. John Timothy Stone; "Commentary on Esther," Prof. L. B. Paton; and "Telling Bible Stories," Louise Seymour Houghton.

Duffield & Co. will publish this autumn "Letters of Mrs. James G. Blaine," edited by Harriet S. Blaine Beale; "The Letters of Edward Lear," author of "The Book of Nonsense," edited by Lady Strachey; "Scottish Women of the Past," by Harry Graham; "Dream Blocks," by Aileen Cleveland, illustrated by Jessie Willcox Smith; "Childhood" and "Bumbletoes," by Millicent and Githa Sowerby; "Lisbon and Cintra, with Some Account of Other Cities and Historic Sites in Portugal," by A. C. Inchbold; and "From Foreland to Penzance," by Olive Holland. The firm will also issue a selection from the Tales of Edgar Allan Poe, illustrated by Ernest L. Blumenschein; an edition of Jane Austen in ten volumes, illustrated by reproductions of water colors by A. Wallis Mills, with summary bibliographical and biographical notes by R. Brimley Johnson; and "Alice in Wonderland," illustrated by Millicent Sowerby. The new volumes in the Rubric Series will be "Poor Richard's Almanac," and "The Sermon on the Mount." To the Art and Letters Library will be added "The Little Flowers" of St. Francis of Assisi, a revision of T. W. Arnold's translation, with an historical introduction by Dr. Guido

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Biagi. The new Mediæval Library will contain "The Book of the Duke of True Lovers," translated from the unique manuscript in the British Museum, in middle French, by Christine de Pisan, with notes and introduction by Alice Kemp Welch; "Of the Tumbler of Our Lady and Other Miracles," translated from the Middle French manuscript at Soissons, with notes and introduction by Alice Kemp Welch; and "The Lady of Vergi," the original text and a translation by Alice Kemp Welch, with an introduction by L. Grandin. These three books will be illustrated with reproductions from illuminations in old manuscripts.

Paul Elder & Co. announce "The Call of the City," a volume of essays by Charles Mulford Robinson; "Quatrains of Christ," by George Creel; and "Animal Analogues," by Prof. Robert William Wood.

The American Journal of International Law for July (Baker, Voorhis & Co.) presents, as its first paper, what we may accept as the summing up of the discussion, referred to in our notice of the April number, between James Brown Scott, Solicitor of the State Department, and Prof. W. W. Willoughby of Johns Hopkins, on the Sanctions of International Law. This paper, by Secretary Root, presents cogently the view that public opinion is a more potent arbiter than theorists usually admit; that the difference between municipal law and international in respect of the forces compelling obedience thereto, is more apparent than real; that there are sanctions for the enforcement of international not less substantial than those which secure obedience to municipal law. Mr. Root's view serves to emphasize that which the late James C. Carter elaborately set forth in his posthumously issued law lectures. The judicial decisions printed are of unusual importance, internationally; so also are the editorial comments, especially those detailing the arbitration agreements recently entered into, including the one negotiated by Messrs. Root and Bryce in settling the Canadian question. The text of the treaties is given in the supplement.

To all who have visited or hope to visit Granada, as well as to those who are interested in Spanish art, we can confidently recommend "Granada: Present and Bygone" (E. P. Dutton & Co.), by Albert F. Calvert, as an illuminating and suggestive guide. Mr. Calvert, who has made Spanish cities his specialty, aptly characterizes Granada as "the noblest monument of a vanished civilization, the high-water mark of Moslem culture." The volume begins with an outline of the history of the city, the chief attention, of course, being paid to the period of the Mohammedan dominion, which lasted for seven hundred and eighty years. Then comes a detailed description of the Alhambra, its three palaces, mosque, chapel, and halls. In the account of the modern city and its Moorish remains Mr. Calvert warns his readers that Granada retains little of its old Moslem character, differing in this respect from Seville. The Spaniard who conquered Granada "wished not only to subdue the Moor but to efface him. It is a matter for surprise that the peerless Alhambra escaped demolition." The crusade of Cardinal Ximenes began "by a wholesale destruction of books in the Arabic language. Thousands of rare and beautiful manuscripts perished in the flames." Chapters are devoted to descriptions of the cathedral and noted churches, old houses, and historic sites, and to the one famous artist to whom Granada gave birth, Alonso Cano. The book, it will be seen, is not intended for the casual reader, though the historic and artistic details are interspersed with interesting anecdotes of famous persons, as Ferdinand and Isabella, and Boabdil, and pleasant glimpses of scenery and life, particularly that of the gypsies. A strong desire to see the city will be inspired by the numerous illustrations, which adorn nearly every page. They give not only a vivid impression of the beauty of its situation and surroundings, but also of the wonderful variety and exquisite detail of the architectural ornamentation of the buildings.

William Amory Gardner's "In Greece with the Classics" (Boston: Little, Brown & Co.) is the kind of guide book for which the sentimental traveller, bored to extinction by archæology, has been yearning. On a slight thread of pleasant narrative of the author's own hasty spring tour in Greece are strung original translations of the chief passages from the Greek poets, which one would wish to recall, upon the Acropolis, at Colonos, Marathon, Ægina, Eleusis, Mycenæ, Delphi, Olympia, or Corfu. The original texts are given in a convenient appendix. There is no attempt at completeness, and the relevancy of some of the selections is questionable: *e. g.*, the long extract from the "Agamemnon" that nearly fills the chapter on Mycenæ, or the version of the story of Nausicaa that makes up the final chapter on Corfu. The translations, while lacking distinction, are readable. The blank verse does not halt, the English hexameters are no more footless or foot-loose than it is the nature of English hexameters to be, and lyrics are plausibly rendered in irregular English measures. Mr. Gardner is not quite sure of his quantities. Cronides (p. 41) and Œnomāus (p. 202) will never do.

"A Teacher of Dante and Other Studies in Italian Literature," by Nathan Haskell Dole (Moffatt, Yard & Co.), is a volume that, considered either as a contribution to knowledge, or as a summary of familiar facts, might be justly dismissed as of little value. For special reasons, however, this book invites attention: it typifies and epitomizes a negligence of study, a shallowness of thought, and a slovenliness of expression seldom to be found so inextricably united in the critical literature of other countries; it exemplifies, also, a dilettantism which should be smitten wherever it shows its head; for if the dull pedantry which misunderstands research is bad, impressionistic garrulity is worse. The topics dealt with demand not only *lungo studio*, and *grand amore*, but a good knowledge of Italian. Yet the eye, roving almost at random, falls upon so many uncouth forms that the author may almost be said to have started a new Italian dialect. *Mangione* (*magione*), p. 28; *brigen* (*brigan*), p. 39; *fangosi genti*, p. 78; *Cuillo* (*Ciullo*), pp. 101 and 103, occurring thrice, and likewise *guisti* (*giusti*), p. 182—these are but a handful. The English of this book is like unto its Italian. On page 45, for example, souls are described as "grilling in vile boiling pitch." Again, "The fuse of one's liveliest epigram is nipped in the bud [like the parliamentary rat] before it has an opportunity to explode." More we must not say, except that this book clearly begins another epoch of reaction against a scholarship fast becoming too exacting, if not too exact.

Mrs. Ida Husted Harper's "Life and Work of Susan B. Anthony," the first two volumes of which appeared in 1898 (see the *Nation* of July 6, 1899, p. 14), is completed with the third volume (Indianapolis: The Hollenbeck Press), covering the years from 1898 to the death of Miss Anthony in 1906. As a collection of material for the life of an altogether remarkable woman, as well as for the history of the movement with which she was identified, the work has permanent value, but as an ordered biography it can claim little merit. Mrs. Harper's method is purely annalistic, a medley of details small and great being swept together without regard to proportion or value, and the mass further swollen by liberal quotations from newspapers and magazines. Fortunately there is a good index.

The American Antiquarian Society of Worcester, Mass., is giving many evidences of awakening activity. It proposes to have a new building in which its notable collections will be much safer than at present, and it is seeking to make more available its manuscript materials. In its latest published Proceedings the manuscripts of Col. John Bradstreet are calendared, comprising six volumes of diaries and orderly books, and one volume of letters, covering a period of more than twenty years. The collection can be little more than a fragment of the original Bradstreet papers, but such as it is, it is invaluable on the military matters of New York in 1755-1768. The campaigns against the French, the relations with the Indians, and the ever-present land question are the principal subjects of the correspondence. The calendar, which was prepared by Charles H. Lincoln, leaves little to be desired in thoroughness and accuracy. The Bradstreet argument on his land claim is printed in full, a lengthy document giving much information on the methods of making grants and manufacturing claims. The study of "Uncle Sam" by Albert Matthews should be noticed, as well as Col. Livermore's essay on "America's Place in History." The Society proposes to unite with the Massachusetts Historical Society in printing the Mather diaries, the manuscripts being divided between the two societies.

Prof. John Bassett Moore is editing "The Works of James Buchanan" (J. B. Lippincott Co.), and the first volume shows that the collection will be complete and dignified. The matter, it must be admitted, makes dry reading. Buchanan's earlier years were spent in Congress; and the set speeches, interjected remarks, and committee reports are monotonous in their formality, and, when thus torn from their context, are often scarcely intelligible. As illustrating the character of Buchanan, they are valuable, but the public utterances of a politician of his day were too studied and calculated to show him as he really was. Expediency governed what he said; and, as a Pennsylvanian he had only one idea, the industrial interests of his State and the

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

influence of a high tariff in advancing them. There are only fifteen letters of Buchanan in this volume, and seven of these are concerned with his agency in the alleged bargain between Adams and Clay, an agency of which Buchanan had little reason to be proud. Starting a Federalist, Buchanan could favor Jackson in 1824; believing at first in internal improvements by the Federal government, he ultimately became an ardent Democrat and a defender of Jeffersonian principles. When the tariff was before Congress, he was always pleading for more protection to the farms and iron works of Pennsylvania; and a critical examination of these speeches would show how far the grounds of protection have shifted since 1824. Buchanan would be satisfied in protecting such domestic manufactures as are necessary for the defence of the nation, or which use the raw materials produced in abundance in the country. But general as was this scheme, his rates of duty were absurdly low, if judged by present-day standards. He admitted that the duty increased the price to the consumer, but predicted such an advance in domestic manufacture as eventually to supply the home market at an even lower price than could the foreigner. He denied that any tariff law involved a pledge to the manufacturer against reduction of duty in the future, and asserted that if there should ever be a combination between the wool growers and the wool manufacturers, the community would suffer by their greed. There is a curious and rather favorable account of John Randolph and his oratory, but it is not possible from the few letters in this volume to judge of Buchanan's ability to observe and weigh his contemporaries, except where his immediate political interest was involved. Mr. Moore makes an admirable editor, and his few notes are restrained and pertinent. A remarkable bit of thorough compilation is the 113-page synopsis of Buchanan's Congressional career.

It is a matter of satisfaction that two of the most popular works of Father Francis Aidan Gasquet, "The Black Death" and "The Last Abbot of Glastonbury," which have been for some time out of print, have now been republished (London: George Bell & Sons). The first book has a new title, having formerly borne the name "The Great Pestilence"; but the work is not otherwise changed, except for the addition of a preface calling attention to the light thrown on the fourteenth century epidemic by the recent outbreak of the same disease in India and elsewhere. The information given by Father Gasquet on the facts of the great pestilence and the extracts from contemporary records are as interesting and valuable as ever. His account of its more remote effects and many of his accompanying statements are, however, still more unsatisfactory than when the book was originally published in 1893, since they are still further from current knowledge of the subject. His estimate of the economic results of the pestilence has not been revised, although it was mistaken in many particulars in the first place and in the interval much has been done to enable corrections to be made. The guesses as to the effect of the plague on language and on the universities, and the slight foundation for his inferences as to its influence on architecture, are equally unsatisfactory; and although the author demonstrates with a wealth of valuable detail the deleterious effects of the pestilence on the numbers and discipline of the monasteries and the ordained clergy, his "social and religious reëdification" is, at best, very vague and ill supported. Historians frequently find the interpretation of the causes and the results of the few cataclysms of history a pitfall. Father Gasquet is in the greater danger of slipping because of his preoccupation with the rehabilitation of the mediæval church. He is on firmer ground in the second work, although it is less a piece of original investigation. In it he gives an account of the shameful attack by the government of Henry VIII. and Cromwell on the three great Benedictine monasteries, Glastonbury, Reading, and Colchester. There are also some lesser articles on ecclesiastical antiquities and occurrences in the life of English churchmen. Much of this matter is interesting and suggestive but hardly sufficiently thorough or well-balanced to satisfy scholars. Gasquet just misses being a serious historian. He has undoubtedly done much to open up and call attention to historical material previously entirely neglected. He has corrected many of the minor Protestant misconceptions of the religious, intellectual, and social life of the Middle Ages, and of the conditions surrounding the English Reformation. But the value of all this is diminished by his constant attitude of an apologist for his church, and by his introduction of much that from the historian's point of view is mere religiosity, couched in terms peculiar to one ecclesiastical denomination. Many of the great Roman Catholic historical writers of the Continent, and some in England, have avoided this entirely, and their work is correspondingly more valuable.

Prof. Friedrich Hirth, in his brief summary, "The Ancient History of China to the end of the Chou Dynasty" (Columbia University Press), has attempted "to steer a middle course," giving for students references to authorities, but for other readers contenting himself with an outline of the long story. The book, composed of a series of lectures, is intended more for the general public than for scholars. It does not add largely to our information, but it is a convenient manual for those who desire to gain a knowledge of the uneventful story of China's existence as a nation.

Northcote W. Thomas has compiled for the Cambridge University press of England (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons) a useful summary of our present knowledge of "Kinship Organizations and Group Marriage in Australia." The amount of knowledge we possess of the intricate kinship schemes of the Australian savages is remarkable. As they are, taken as a whole, the lowest organized groups of men now existing, their kinship relations promise to throw much light upon the original social organization of primitive man. Hence the importance of such a compilation as Mr. Thomas's. But Mr. Thomas has done something more than compile. He has very valuable criticism to make of the suggestions of authorities like Dr. J. H. Frazer, Andrew Lang, and others, who have concerned themselves with the obscure beginnings of human society. He has likewise invented a useful series of technical names, which enables him to put his information in condensed form, though this terminology naturally makes his exposition somewhat dry and difficult reading.

In "Die Semiten als Träger der ältesten Kultur Europas" (Gleiwitz: Neumann) Konrad Schmidt endeavors to show that the oldest European culture was Semitic in its origin and character. In order to maintain this proposition, the author must prove that the Etruscans, Pelasgians, and Phœnicians belonged to this family of nations. That the Phœnicians were Semitic may be admitted, but this view cannot be maintained in regard to the Pelasgians, as is evident from the lack of Semitic elements in the Greek language; nor of the Etruscans, who still remain a puzzling ethnological problem, to the solution of which the present work does not make any important contribution. Some interesting questions are discussed, but no satisfactory evidence is adduced in support of the thesis embodied in the title of the volume.

Enno Littmann, the successor of Theodor Nöldeke, in Strasburg, has already contributed to our knowledge of life in Syria and Palestine. He now issues a new collection of material, entitled "Arabische Beduinenerzählungen," a book of 131 pages, with Arabian text and translation (Strassburg: Trübner). The present stories, collected by a South Palestinian peasant, who lived for years among the Beduins, are thoroughly Beduin in character. Practically all treat of one theme, though it is developed in various forms, namely the restoration to his own tribe of a worthy Arab, who through misfortune had been separated from his own people.

The volume of Dr. W. Staerk of the theological faculty of Jena, "Das Assyrische Weltreich im Urteil der Propheten" (Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht), undertakes, with the help of the data secured from recently discovered cuneiform inscriptions, to study Assyria in the light of the Biblical prophecies.

Dr. Friedrich Wiegand, professor of church history in the University of Greifswald, assisted by Dr. Alfred Uckley, also of Greifswald, has begun the publication of an annual, containing all the important church documents issued during the year, under the title, Kirchliche Bewegungen der Gegenwart (Leipzig: Theodor Weicher). The volume for 1907 has just appeared, a book of 188 pages, costing 3.50 marks. It promises to be an excellent collection for the study of contemporary church affairs, supplementing the weekly reports of F. M. Schiele in the *Chronik der christlichen Welt*, Marburg. A fairly complete but not altogether objective report of current theological and religious developments in Germany, with a bias toward conservatism, has been published by Prof. F. Kropatscheck of the University of Breslau, in Nos. 4 and 5 of the *Neue kirchliche Zeitschrift*, under the title "Zum Kampf der kirchlichen Richtungen."

The Catholic Herder'sche Verlagshandlung in Freiburg-im-B. has just issued the first volume of a new annual, entitled Jahrbuch der Zeit- und Kulturgeschichte, 1907, edited by Prof. F. Schnürer. It contains a critical survey of modern thought and life, and in connection with the Jahrbuch der Naturwissenschaften, published by the same house, and now appearing in its

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

twenty-third annual volume by Dr. M. Wildermann, is intended to cover from the point of view of the editors and publishers the world of research and thought in all departments.

One of the most ambitious contributions to ballad criticism in recent years is "Niels Ebbesens Vise Med Kritisk Kommentar," by Sophus Larsen (Copenhagen: H. Hagerup). The work is a philological investigation of the analogues and variants of the Ballad of Niels Ebbesen for the purpose of restoring it to its original form. The difficulties of such a task are, however, very great and the author can hardly be said to have given us a thirteenth-century ballad.

Part I. of Miss Olive Bray's metrical translation of the Elder Edda, which was announced two years ago by The Viking Club of London is now nearly printed and will soon be issued. It will contain the mythological poems and will have the Old Norse and the English rendering in parallel columns. It will also be supplied with an extensive introduction and notes by Miss Bray and several illustrations by W. G. Collingwood.

In the publications of the Royal Norwegian Scientific Society, No. 8, Th. Peterson discusses "A Celtic Reliquary Found in a Norwegian Burial Mound." The work relates to a discovery made at Melhus, in Namdalen, about eighty miles north of Throndhjem. With the Celtic character of this find established and its date fixed at about the beginning of the ninth century, this reliquary offers evidence that the inhabitants of the region north of Throndhjem also took part in the Viking expeditions to England, Scotland, and Ireland.

To our knowledge of the Faroes many contributions have been made in recent years. The eminent Faroese scholar Jakob Jakobsen, resident in Copenhagen, has made an important addition to these in his "Diplomatarium Faeroense: Foeroyskt Fodnbraevasavn," recently issued at Thorshavn (in the Faroes) and Copenhagen. The work forms the first instalment of the author's collection of records and documents relating to the pre-Reformation period of the islands. The work is written in Faroese, a language which stands about halfway between Modern Icelandic and the west coast dialects of Norway.

The Cleveland Public Library has prepared an interesting and suggestive handbook, "The Work of the Cleveland Public Library with the Children and the Means Used to Reach Them." The librarian, William H. Brett, writes to the *Nation:*

> While we compiled this publication for members of the National Education Association and for our own citizens who are interested in social betterment, I should be glad to comply with requests from your subscribers for copies, free of charge.

The Bibliothèque Nationale has received from the estate of the late M. de Naurois a collection of manuscripts of authors of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, some of them edited by Jean and Louis Racine and André Chénier. There are also autograph letters of Jean Racine, Rousseau, and Voltaire.

Mrs. William U. Moulton, better known as Louise Chandler Moulton (born Louise Chandler), died in Boston August 11, at the age of seventy-three. From the age of eighteen she had been a voluminous contributor to newspapers and magazines, and had covered a wide range of subjects in her verse, stories, sketches, and literary criticism. Among her books are "This, That, and the Other" (1854), "Juno Clifford" (1855), "My Third Book" (1859), "Bed-Time Stories" (1873), "Some Women's Hearts" (1874), "Swallow Flights," poems (1877), "New Bed-Time Stories" (1880), "Random Rambles" (1881), "Firelight Stories" (1883) "Ourselves and Our Neighbors" (1887), "Miss Eyre from Boston, and Other Stories" (1889), "In the Garden of Dreams" (1889), "Stories Told at Twilight" (1890), "Lazy Tours in Spain and Elsewhere" (1896), "In Childhood's Country" (1896), and "At the Wind's Will" (1899).

Miss Katharine Prescott Wormeley died August 4 at Jackson, N. H. Born in England in 1830, she came to this country in her girlhood, and at the time of the civil war she actively engaged in the work of the United States Sanitary Commission. She was author of "The United States Sanitary Commission" (1863), "Life of Balzac" (1890), and "The Cruel Side of War" (1899). Her chief literary work, however, was translations from the French. She translated Balzac in forty volumes, Molière in six, "Versailles Historical Memoirs" in twenty, and Daudet's "Tartarin" and "Kings in Exile."

We regret to record the death of Alfred Webb of Dublin, for many years a valued contributor to the *Nation.* He was a member of the Society of Friends, took a great interest in philanthropic work, and was active in promoting the aims of the Peace Society. In 1870 he was at the meeting in Dublin at which it was decided to form the Home Government Association, and in 1873 he took part in organizing the Home Rule League. He served as treasurer of various movements in connection with the National League, and at the time of his death was treasurer of the Irish Nationalist party fund. Under Parnell's leadership, he entered Parliament, and for some years represented West Waterford in the Nationalist interest. While in Parliament he addressed the house but rarely. He was, however, a frequent contributor to the newspapers, and he was author of a "Compendium of Irish Biography."

Thomas Frost, a well-known English journalist and author, born in 1821, has died at Littleover. He had been editor of the *Magazine of Art, Gentleman's Journal,* and Sheffield *Evening Post.* Among his books are: "Half-Hours with Early Explorers" (1873), "The Old Showmen and the Old London Fairs" (1874), "Circus Life and Circus Celebrities" (1875), "Lives of the Conjurors," "Life of Thomas, Lord Lyttelton," "Secret Societies of European Revolution" (1876), "Forty Years' Recollections," "In Kent with Charles Dickens" (1880), "Modern Explorers" (1882), and "Reminiscences of a Country Journalist" (1886).

The death is announced of Camille Chabaneau, the well-known philologist. Born in 1831, he held various university positions. Among his publications are: "Histoire et théorie de la conjugaison française," "Poésies intimes," "Fragments d'un mystère provençal, découverts à Périgueux," "Grammaire limousine," "La Langue et la littérature provençales," "Comput en vers provençaux," "Traduction des Psaumes de la pénitence en vers provençaux," "Les Troubadours Rénaud et Geoffroy de Pons," "Fragments d'une traduction provençale du roman de Merlin," "Poésies inédites des troubadours du Périgord," "Notes sur quelques manuscripts provençaux perdus et égarés," "Paraphrases des Psaumes de la pénitence en vers gascons," and "Saint Marie-Madeleine dans la littérature provençale." He was also a contributor to the periodical press.

Peter Weinberg, professor of German literature at the University of St. Petersburg, has died in his seventy-seventh year. He had translated into Russian a number of German authors, including Heine; also Victor Hugo from the French, and Shelley and Byron from English.

STUDIES IN FRENCH HISTORY.

The Life of Louis XI., the Rebel Dauphin and the Statesman King: From his Original Letters and Other Documents. By Christopher Hare. New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons. $2.50 net.

Charles the Bold, Last Duke of Burgundy. By Ruth Putnam. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.35 net.

Marie de Médicis and the French Court in the XVIIth Century. Translated from the French of Louis Batiffol by Mary King; edited by H. W. Carless Davis Ball. New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons. $2 net.

Mirabeau the Demigod. By W. R. H. Trowbridge. New York: Imported by Charles Scribner's Sons. $3.75 net.

The Last Days of Marie Antoinette. From the French of G. Lenôtre; by Mrs. Rodolph Stawell. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co. $3.50 net.

Ever since the novelist and playwright have taken hold of Louis XI. and lent him some of the glamour of romance, this most unlovely and prosaic of kings has been a subject of interest to English readers. His rival, Charles the Bold, to whom, in 1864, John Foster Kirk devoted 1,713 pages, seems, on the other hand, to have attracted more attention from the American scholar. We have this very year a new book on the King of France by an Englishman who writes under the name of Christopher Hare, and an American woman, Miss Ruth Putnam, presents us the last results of historical scholarship on Charles the Bold, who thus enters the series of the Heroes of the Nations. Both authors have brought to their task a complete knowledge of most of the documents available up to date, and a personal interest in the subject that is likely to put on his guard a less enthusiastic and somewhat critical reader. Granted that history ought indeed to be, in Michelet's words, a "resurrection," there is yet something misleading in a method that makes everything too dramatic and too lifelike.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

The main feature of Mr. Hare's book is his abundant use of the mass of Louis XI.'s correspondence (1935 *lettres missives*) that in late years were edited for the Société de l'Histoire de France. Thus Mr. Hare has been able to devote more than the usual space to Louis as dauphin, namely three chapters out of sixteen, while the thirteen others are given up to the endless and confusing struggles of this first standard-bearer of absolute monarchy against the riotous and hungry hordes of feudalism. The classic stage villain of the drama, the monster of Plessis-les-Tours, familiar to the reader of "Quentin Durward," comes out of this book as a despot, to be sure, who ruthlessly curbed the pretensions of the lords and Parliament, was rough and cruel with his enemies, and bled his subjects to the last drop; but this despot also secured for the kingdom some of the benefits of peace, facilitated communication between the provinces, created the first royal mail service (1464), strengthened the military, developed the silk industry, regulated the exploitation of mines, approved of the introduction of printing presses, was interested in letters, art, and painting, encouraged the embellishment of the churches of Bayeux, Troyes, and Rouen, and had a hand in the "Cent Nouvelles Nouvelles." Even this portrait, however, is still too conventional and the author who does not mention in his bibliography the latest synthetic effort of historical scholarship, namely, the "History of France," edited by M. Lavisse, might have found there some new traits to give the finishing touches to the sketch of his hero. In the first place, there was his shabbiness of dress, which so astonished the people when they saw him enter Abbeville at the side of the gorgeously attired Philip of Burgundy, and caused some one to remark that his whole outfit, including the horse, could not have cost more than twenty francs. Then we learn also about his wanderings through his kingdom in a pilgrim's garb, mounted on a mule, stopping at odd places, and giving audience to foreign envoys in a peasant's hut. His childish and mercenary devotion which wanted immediate results, like that of a Neapolitan woman of to-day, and his freedom from formality and charm of manners are well known; but the nervous restlessness and garrulous habits of this traditionally sullen and taciturn character are not so familiar to us and are worth emphasizing in a new study that aims at supplementing the work of preceding historians.

Miss Putnam's work is an excellent sketch of 484 pages with an index and an elaborate bibliography; it is written with perhaps more dash and fervor than both the hero and the subject warrant. The book opens with the description of the assembly of the Knights of the Golden Fleece at Dijon, 1433, when the newly born son of Philip the Good was initiated into the order; and the last pages take us to the plains of Nancy, where Charles's body was found, on one of the first days of January, 1477, embedded in the ice and half mutilated. The picturesque and dramatic elements that the short career of the last Duke of Burgundy offer to the biographer, the brilliancy of his court in so sharp contrast to that of the King of France, his plans of aggrandizement, his dream of reviving the old kingdom of Lotharingia, his long fight with Louis XI.—all this confused story is vividly told by an historian behind whom one feels a woman of alert mind and keen sympathy. In her last chapter Miss Putnam accurately points out the weakness of the plan of Charles the Bold to unite such heterogeneous provinces as happened then to be under his control, a country corresponding to the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxemburg of to-day, to which must be added a section of France representing nine departments. These countries, foreign in race and language, and separated from each other by strips of foreign territory, lacked the vital and germinating principle that forms a nation.

Those who are tired of political and diplomatic history will read with relief a book like M. Batiffol's on "Marie de Médicis and the French Court." It offers concrete and tangible facts, and gives us the kind of information we are all hungering for. How a young Florentine princess married a foreign king who needed her money to pay his debts; what a marriage by proxy was like at the beginning of the seventeenth century; how the Italian princess was disappointed when she entered the Louvre and believed herself the victim of a practical joke, so dingy this palace seemed to one who was born in the Pitti; how the queen spent her days in her new residence, what she ate, what she wore, how much she spent on her household, for her stable, her jewels; what her relations were with her husband and his mistresses, who her friends were, what influences ruled her, what sort of interests she had; what she did to encourage art and artists; how much money she received, how she used it—all that and much more is told by a trained historian who has consulted first-hand documents and gives us a most instructive chapter in the history of civilization. Such books, even if, like this one, they cover only the short period between 1600 and 1617, help us to understand better a whole century, both in its social and political life. The volume is most elaborately printed, and the translation by Miss King is faithful as well as readable.

To take a life like that of Mirabeau and deliberately narrate it after the method and style of the popular novelist, with sensational chapter titles, fancy and improbable incidents, manufactured dialogues, to draw from imagination elements that reality surabundantly furnished—all this seems to us a sign of poor judgment. But since the historical novel, which is dying out elsewhere, has still many adepts in this country, there will probably be readers who may want to get in this way some information on the romantic career of the great orator of the Constituante, on his stormy youth, his half-lunatic father, his impossible mother, his wild sisters, and the quarrels, suits, disorders, and disturbances of this unique family. Partly fictitious, partly biographical, this story of "Mirabeau the Demigod" (404 pages, with illustrations, bibliography, and index) will satisfy the class of readers whose higher education is being taken care of by the writers of Sunday supplements. There is a prologue with a picture of Gyp, the Parisian novelist (who is a descendant of Mirabeau), and strange conversations that the author credits to a woman innkeeper at Bignon (Loiret), Mirabeau's birthplace, and still stranger remarks addressed to him by a "barefoot gamin." Then comes the story, the "true and romantic story," as the title reads, of the life and adventures of the hero. It follows pretty closely the lines of the true biography; but to gratify the tastes of the novel reader it is divided into three parts: "The Boy," "The Man," and "The Demon of the Impossible." To a lover of true biography the most irritating feature of the book is the dialogues, which, the author tells us, are "seldom imaginary," but which he too frequently ornaments with his own wit, eloquence, and taste.

"The Last Days of Marie Antoinette," now presented in English for the first time, appeared in French in 1897. G. Lenôtre, who has made his specialty of all the byways and untrodden paths of the Revolution, has gathered here some original documents on the life of the queen during her captivity, from August, 1792, to October 16, 1793. These documents, some of which are now first published, are generally narratives or statements of eye-witnesses whom their official functions or their humble occupation brought in touch with Marie Antoinette, while she was awaiting her trial. Some of these authorities are of a kind that historians seldom find—a menial of the pantry like the faithful Turgy, an upholsterer, a servant girl, and a sweeper. From this mass of material of uneven value (some of it was written as late as 1824, and some contains statements too improbable to believe) we get a more vivid and tragic picture of the life at the Conciergerie and the Temple than any continuous narrative from second-hand sources could have given us. The translation of Mrs. Stawell is good and well printed. In every respect this English book is far superior to the French edition.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

CURRENT FICTION.

The Greater Love. By Anna McClure Sholl. New York: The Outing Publishing Co.

The story is of a high-spirited girl who ran away from a dull, uncomprehending American home and became an eminent portrait painter in Paris. The English lover who would fain have married her has an insane wife. And when years later Eleanor returns with a charming daughter to her childhood's home, only her immediate family know that the young Constance is an illegitimate child. To keep the secret from the daughter, and comfortably to establish her, are the two objects of the passionately loving mother's life. The former she is unable to compass. The latter, after one broken engagement, is on the way to accomplishment when the book ends.

The tale has a certain carrying force, for the end is not evident and the way not a thoroughfare. There are firmly modelled characters among the many, and there is forcible writing. The heroine Eleanor's vividness and her daughter Constance's aerial charm are made palpable. Mrs. Grundy speaks out loud and clear and always under the author's evident censure. Even more loud and more clear speak the apologizers for the heroine. As a statement of the omnipresent problem, the book has some novel adjuncts and complications. As a contribution to solution it is worthless, since morally it is a long, indeterminate muddle. The Anglican priest who wishes to marry Constance breaks his engagement, then offers to renew it on certain conditions. The daughter refuses to bring a stain to the escutcheon of her later lover, but is not allowed to stand on that decision; the lover, represented as peculiarly fastidious on points of family honor, quails not an instant. His mother, a sternly austere patrician, comforts herself with the knowledge that Constance's father had been an aristocrat. Most unstable of all is Eleanor herself. Persisting in her reflection that it was "society which found her guilty, not God nor nature," "she longed in her despairing moods for a sense of sin on which to build up some new fabric of existence." Eleanor's whole attitude toward the affair may be summed up as jaunty. Neither her sensibility nor her suffering can disguise the fact. When her most oppressive brother says to her: "You've made a lot out of your life, even though you've never acknowledged that you were in the wrong," her answer is, "I can't regret a liberal education." Made to pose as a source of spiritual counsel, she can cajole the bridegroom retreating from her daughter, with, "All that I have can be used for your work. . . . My wealth would be at your disposal"—a bribe which the priest is man enough to refuse. To him, discoursing of judgment, she says, "I have never accepted man's estimate of God, which makes of him a gigantic bookkeeper. The God I know blesses joy." And even when she has set her feet in the way of self-denial, "how she had sinned against God was still a mystery to her—for she had yet to identify the human and the divine morality."

The Little Brown Brother. By Stanley Portal Hyatt. London: Archibald Constable & Co.

Considered merely as a novel, this book is of unusual interest. Written by an English war correspondent, the only journalist at the front during the Pulajan campaign of 1904-1905, the work has the freshness of first-hand observation, the vivid picturesqueness of the trained reporter, and the vigor of a man accustomed to write cable dispatches. The heroine is a high-spirited English girl who likes men that "do things," and who shares with her father, a wealthy hemp-buyer of Calbayog, a belief that it is the white man's business to keep the little brown brother in his place with a strong hand. The hero is an Englishman who has resigned his captaincy in the Indian Army in undeserved disgrace, and has become temporarily a soldier of fortune, casting in his lot with the Americans. Both of these popular types of the "new romance" are admirably drawn and pretty thoroughly likable characters—the way in which the hero quells the inferior race with a glance of his Anglo-Saxon eye is simply irresistible. There is, besides, a crowd of subsidiary characters—the handicapped American members of the civil government, the treacherous native governors, the American soldiers, brave and long-suffering, the unscrupulous gun-runners, the Filipino constabulary, the bloodthirsty hill men, and the much-butchered taos, or peasantry.

But the book is more than a novel; it is also a sensational political pamphlet. The interest of the narrative is overshadowed by the sweeping indictment of the American administration of the Philippines. The author writes, to be sure, as a fervid advocate of the British colonial policies. He is of the opinion that the brotherhood of man includes only the Caucasian race. He warmly applauds the officer who agreed with his fellows to "recognize no man in public who had a native with him." In spite of the evidence of three hundred years of misrule, he praises the Spanish colonial empire because it was free from the "brown-brother nonsense" and recognized that "color is color":

> It was white man's rule, almost to the end, the rule of those who knew the difference between black and white, East and West; who understood that the Oriental is not an individual at all, but merely part of a vast, unwieldy mass, which is incapable of guiding itself, incapable of thinking for itself, needing all the time a firm, strong hand to steer it into the right course, to force it along that course; a mass which, if it leave the track, must be driven back with lead and bayonets and high explosives.

It is not to be expected that a man with such inveterate contempt for the Oriental should sympathize with any movement looking toward Philippine independence. But Mr. Hyatt goes on to impeach the sincerity of our efforts to benefit the islands. He represents that the entire conduct of the campaign was regulated by political wire-pullers in the United States. He makes it appear that from fear of losing votes in the Presidential election, general insurrections were represented as insignificant local outbreaks, and little handfuls of police were sent out to lose their lives in putting down revolts that every one knew demanded the sending of an army. This is bleeding ground, indeed, and if these charges are not true it was, to say the least, questionable taste to incorporate them in a work of fiction.

The Enchanted Castle. By E. Nesbit. New York: Harper & Bros.

E. Nesbit and W. W. Jacobs are the two contributors who have given a certain cheap magazine some circulation among a constituency at whom, to judge by the rest of its matter, it was not aimed. E. Nesbit is, one may almost say, the only person now telling fairy stories in public for love of the game. "The Enchanted Castle" is a very good example of her craft. Its humor consists in the continual jumbling of the realities of English child life, and the unrealities (or deeper realities) of the land of fancy. The wits of these young Britons are, when they choose, mazed with fairy-lore, and they have the dialect of romance at their tongue's end. Probably no such deep philosophy could be read into their adventures as ingenuity has connected with the exploits of their great progenitor Alice; but the absurdity of the things they do is made delightful by the whimsical air of the writer. In short, the book illustrates once more the English faculty of amusing children without boring one's self.

Bertrand of Brittany. By Warwick Deeping. New York: Harper & Bros.

If this is a yarn of the swashbuckling type, and therefore to be regarded without enthusiasm by the austere critic, it has a certain youthful gusto which should commend it to the honest citizen. After all, the gentle knight is still pricking o'er the plain of all healthy young imaginations, and even the fiction of the motor car is powerless to put him to rout. Bertrand of Brittany is one of your ugly ducklings, neglected by his own family and fated to win his way by dint of the hardest of knocks. He is

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

suitably unencumbered with brains, as the Orlandos and Romeos should be; he deserves the fair, and gets her. Of the detail of his adventures we need say nothing. It is only for his boy-virtue that we say anything of him at all.

The Poetical Works of Giles and Phineas Fletcher. Vol. I. Edited by Frederick S. Boas. Cambridge English Classics. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.50 net.

For ordinary use the edition of the two brothers published by A. B. Grosart in 1868 and 1869 may be thought quite sufficient; but Grosart's carelessness in minute points is well known, and if we are to have the works of these lesser poets in ancient orthography at all—they would really be far more serviceable in modern dress—we might as well have their text reproduced with minute exactness. Not having the original editions and MSS. before us, we can only assume that the present text follows the example of the series in being scrupulously correct. It is to be noted also that Mr. Boas has straightened out the confusion into which Grosart had fallen in regard to the MSS. of the "Locustæ," and has taken pains, by collating the Quarto edition and the MSS. of Phineas Fletcher's "Sicelides," to arrive at an authoritative text of that academic drama.

The present volume contains all the works of Giles and those of Phineas which were published before 1633. "The Purple Island," of Phineas, which, probably in part on account of its romantic title, is the best known poem of the brothers, is reserved for the second volume, but the two long English poems already printed, "Christ's Victory and Triumph," by Giles, and "The Apollyonists," by Phineas, are sufficient to afford an interesting comparison of their work. We confess to have felt always—contrary, we believe, to the common opinion—that "The Apollyonists" is a more readable and considerable poem than anything of Giles's, or than the later work of Phineas himself. There is more of romantic charm in single lines or passages of Giles's poem, with occasionally a note of haunting melody:

> One of ten thousand soules I am, and more,
> That of his eyes, and their sweete wounds complain,
> Sweete are the wounds of love, never so sore,
> Ah might he often slaie mee so againe;—

but as a whole the poem is amorphous and its ideas ill digested. "The Apollyonists," or plot of the Jesuits to blow up the Parliament House, on the contrary, moves on with vigor to its end; there is a certain massiveness in its effect which can without great impropriety be compared with Milton. And if the general plan of "Paradise Regained" may have been suggested to Milton by "Christ's Victory," it is practically demonstrable that much of the spirit and some of the imagery of "Paradise Lost" were borrowed from Phineas's work. It is impossible to think that the later poet, while writing his debate in hell, did not have the similar scene of Fletcher's in mind. Almost we might think it Milton's, and not Fletcher's, Satan, addressing his fallen comrades:

> Now by your selves, and thunder-danted armes,
> But never danted hate, I you implore;

and again it seems, in character if not in style, almost the Belial of Milton who rises to temper courage with cunning:

> His matter fram'd of slight equivocations,
> His very forme was form'd of mentall reservations.

The most striking parallel, an example at once of Milton's readiness to take suggestions and his genius in sovereign alchemy, is afforded by the scenes of "Hels yron gates" in the two poems. Fletcher begins valiantly:

> The Porter to th' infernall gate is Sin,
> A shapeless shape, a foule deformed thing,
> Nor nothing, nor a substance; as those thin
> And empty formes, which through the ayer fling
> Their wandering shapes, at length they'r fastned in
> The Chrystall sight. It serves, yet reignes as King:
> It lives, yet's death: it pleases, full of 'paine:
> Monster! ah who, who can thy beeing faigne?
> Thou shapeless shape, live death, paine pleasing, servile reigne.

It is a thin Milton, indeed, but the likeness comes out more strongly when the whole scene is read. One sees in reading the Fletchers the sources of Milton, and one sees, too, how his classical training and the trend of taste exemplified by Waller saved him from the empty conceits and quibbling tongue of the later Elizabethans.

Bibliography of the Philippine Islands, Printed and Manuscript. By James Alexander Robertson. Pp. 437. Cleveland: The Arthur H. Clark Co. $10 net.

This book, which recently appeared as Volume LIII. of the monumental series, The Philippine Islands, 1493-1898, is now issued separately in a limited edition of 150 copies. Mr. Robertson's work is quite indispensable for one who wishes to make "a thorough bibliographical survey of the Philippines"—the test of usefulness which the compiler had in view. It is not, however, a comprehensive bibliography, to be independently used as such. Indeed, when it is stated that attention is devoted primarily to listing manuscripts, it will be apparent that one volume could not cover such a scope. The "Aparato bibliográfico" of Retana catalogues more Philippine titles than any other, yet not all the printed titles, even of importance, are there listed. But the Library of Congress bibliography of 1903, combined with the "Biblioteca" of Dr. Pardo de Tavera, produced under the same auspices, furnishes a fairly complete catalogue of printed Philippina (and one also of greater practical utility than Retana's, especially for Americans). Mr. Robertson did not set out to perfect these bibliographies, but undertook to help the student using them, and to list Philippine manuscripts. With the Manila archives being catalogued, with a fresh discovery of much valuable material in the Mexican national archives, and with some portions of Spain's archives still but half explored for Philippina, it is clear that no thoroughly selective list can yet be made. Yet, in the nearly three hundred pages here devoted to manuscripts we have entries for almost every year from 1518 to 1898. Only one of Mr. Robertson's lists of printed titles describes Philippine works in general; that gives the printed books, pamphlets, etc., directly drawn upon in the preparation of this historical series. It is of great practical value, because of the data brought together concerning rare Philippina. The fifty-page introduction is highly serviceable. Its data regarding the principal collections of Philippina, printed and manuscript, are available nowhere else, except in fragmentary form. The further data on linguistics, maps and cartography, photographs, and views, museum collections, etc., are also useful. The pains taken in the compilation of this volume are evident throughout, and the reviewer has so far found only a very occasional error in transcription of foreign names.

Conscientiousness has, in fact, been the characteristic of the editorial work upon the whole series above named, which is closed by this volume, except for the analytical index that will occupy Volumes LIV. and LV. The undertaking, which is a large one, executed in the main very well, in the face of difficulties and discouragements, has received but scant notice, especially in the United States. Not long after the earlier volumes were issued in 1903, it became evident that the support counted upon would not be forthcoming. Facing their loss, the publishers undertook to carry the series to completion in an edition limited strictly to the subscribers already obtained. Economies were enforced, and the editors had to toil on for five years without hope of other reward than the recognition of their work as scholars. Under the circumstances, much praise is due Miss Emma Helen Blair and her co-editor, Mr. Robertson.

Books produced under such disadvantages inevitably have defects. But the

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

main criticism is that the series was planned too early and too ambitiously. Even with adequate support, the time had not come in 1902—has not yet come—when the selective process can be satisfactorily applied to the undigested mass of Philippine historical data. Fault may be found also with the distribution of material. One regrets much of the space given to translations from some of the old friars' chronicles, when one finds only two volumes of reprinted selections or hitherto unused documents bearing on the nineteenth century; the regret is all the greater because these two volumes are crammed with matter having direct relation to events since 1898. Moreover, various important incidents of the last third of the eighteenth century had to be summarily treated, owing to the previous encroachments of seventeenth century chronicles. This shortcoming is, of course, partly explained by the fact that the work was originally planned to extend only to 1800.

This fault in proportion has in part been remedied by the editors' own labors in preparing compilations, *e. g.*, on the contests with the Moros, on ethnology, on education, etc. These compilations, published as appendices in the later volumes, commonly cover the entire period of Spanish rule under the given head. The comparatively small space assigned to the nineteenth century is also in part remedied by the publication of a special contribution covering the years 1860-1898, and furnishing a working bibliography and commentary for the closing period of Spanish rule.

The Land in the Mountains: Being an Account of the Past and Present of Tyrol, Its People, and Its Castles. By W. A. Bailie-Grohman; with an introduction by Charles Landis; illustrated with 82 plates and maps of modern Tyrol and ancient Raetia. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

In this latest work, the prolific author of "Camps in the Rockies" returns to the subject which awakened his boyish interest; for his first book, "Tyrol and Tyrolese," was published when he was but twenty-four. Here he has given us what is mainly a collection of historical and biographical facts connected with the country about his summer home, a mediæval castle on the Brenner Pass, about twenty-four miles east of Innsbruck. As a whole, it must be confessed, the book is not easy reading; for much of it is interesting only to those well versed in the early history of Europe. Some readers may be tempted to echo the sentiment of an American visitor at the castle. On being shown a collection of Tyrolensia, he exclaimed: "What! all those books written about this mouldy old country! Why, the man at the hotel in Innsbruck told me that there isn't a single count or baron or country gentleman in the whole of Tyrol who owns a motor, or who ever travelled in a special car!"

Nevertheless the work supplies a felt want. In English there is no history of this land which for twenty centuries has played a prominent part in European affairs; and we are grateful to our author for opening our eyes to its importance by his brief outline of its history and the sketches of the leading men who took part in it. Much of what is related might have been seen from the windows of his castle on the great thoroughfare connecting the Po and the Danube—from the passing of the Emperors Maximilian and Charles V., each bearing his coffin with him, to the draped railway train with the body of the wife of Francis Joseph, "the last homecoming of the unhappy Empress Elizabeth." Especially valuable are the glimpses of life in the feudal days. Then nearly every man above the rank of peasant lived in a fortified castle, if possible on some well-nigh inaccessible cliff, as the existence of some six hundred castles, half of which are now in absolute ruins, in a region about as large as Maryland, testifies.

After a short description of the country, the author sketches the history of the Brenner Pass, the oldest over the Alps, in which are some interesting details as to travelling expenses in the thirteenth century. An account of the peasantry, while it emphasizes their isolation and the persistence with which they cling to their old customs and principles, yet calls attention to a change being brought about by the utilization of the water-power, with which Tyrol is so richly provided:

> For the ugly poles of electric works are going up apace all over the country, and even remote valleys in the heart of the Alps have started little electric works for the lighting of their villages and to furnish power for domestic purposes. Many a Tyrolese peasant house that, up to yesterday, knew only the flare of the pitch-wood torch, or the dim flame of a tiny lamp consisting of a pan of tallow, with a wick of twisted thread, is to-day furnished with a number of eight-candlepower lights, at a rental of six shillings or so a year per lamp.

The latter half of the book contains the noteworthy facts connected with the author's castle and others on the Pass, and the two great families who lived in Matzen. The first of these was the Frundsberg, who possessed it for three hundred years and played a prominent part in the wars of those ages. In 1589 it became the property of the Fuggers, who from being simple weavers of fustian, became the first millionaires of Europe, "in whose hands for upwards of a century lay the purse-strings of Europe's monarchs, on whose financial help depended the election of emperors and whose nod decided the duration of wars." Among other interesting people who flit across these instructive pages are the minnesinger, Walther von der Vogelweide, immortalized by Longfellow, and the last of these bards, Oswald of Wolkenstein, of whose adventurous career a brief account is given.

A pleasant introduction of Mr. Bailie-Grohman to his readers is offered by his friend of many years' standing, Mr. Landis, who pictures him to us in his two widely separated homes in British Columbia and the Tyrol. Of the charming illustrations with which the volume is adorned, of the beautiful scenery, the castles, their courtyards and interiors, and the specimens of the wonderful native art of the dawn of the modern age, it is difficult to write in fitting terms. Sufficient is it to say that they alone would fill one with a longing to visit this "land in the mountains" in which still lingers the impress of a romantic age.

Italica: Studies in Italian Life and Letters. By William Roscoe Thayer. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. $1.50 net.

These fourteen essays, "bye-products of the past ten or twelve years," are here gathered, we infer, because they "contain information about contemporary Italians and the recent conditions in Italy that may not be easily accessible elsewhere to readers in English." Other essays, writes Mr. Thayer, "record friendships, personal or literary. Others, again, spring out of enthusiasms still unquenched, or were inspired by some feature of that Enchanted Land, whose beauty is inexhaustible, and whose boundless interests touch, and will always touch, men and women who perceive the deepest concerns of the human soul." Mr. Thayer's enthusiasms are as genuine as these words promise. He writes with a zest often verging on passion, and at times, perhaps, allows his feelings to permeate his facts, tingeing them with strong colors of his own. Being interested himself, he interests the reader, but his method will not gratify those historians who demand documentary evidence at every step, and reject as unscientific all *ipse dico* systems of writing history.

In describing the Italy of to-day, Mr. Thayer's method gains in validity; for no reasonable critic will blame a sincere observer who records, without quotation of authorities, what he has noted upon the spot. The chapter on Luigi Chiali, for example, is a personal reminiscence (p. 241); so, too, the account of "Leopardi's Home" (p. 171); the essay on "Cardinal Hohenlohe—Liberal" (pp. 287-303) is mainly a review of Levi's book; another essay is a study of Giordano Bruno, or, rather, of that martyr's "Expulsion of the Beast Triumphant" (pp. 101-140), in which we

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

find Bruno modern, contemporaneous, "'a God-intoxicated man,'" whose attitude as to the miraculous and as to religions is, however, comparatively familiar to readers of history. The pages on "Thirty Years of Italian Progress," dealing with modern Italy, might have been more valuable if Mr. Thayer had compared his statistics with analogous statistics for other countries. For most questions of industry and education "Italy To-day," by B. King and T. Okey, is a more enlightened book. Again, though his description of "Italy in 1907" is on the whole a vivid and accurate summary, why not have devoted a sentence to Renato Fucini?—a story-writer of almost epic quality, whose portrayals of every-day realities reveal what the Church is coming to more plainly than does Fogazzarro's haze-wrapped "Santo," a book here described as its author's masterpiece (pp. 3-27). On the other hand, "The Election of a Pope" (pp. 177-195), besides being vivid, undoubtedly epitomizes what most intelligent anti-clerics, at Rome and elsewhere in Italy, believe to occur within the Vatican's walls between the death of a Pope and the announcement of his successor. Their opinion, as well as Mr. Thayer's, is revealed in the ironical observation that "cardinals, whatever they may profess, do not rely wholly on divine guidance in their selection of a Pope" (p. 192), and this, we believe, has been true ever since Boniface hastened Celestine to make the *gran rifiuto*. What they do rely upon is so plainly stated that no student of the mediæval Church can fail to see how faithfully she is perpetuating her traditions.

In conclusion, we may note that Mr. Thayer ranges widely; consequently the liability to commit various demonstrable errors (as, for example, with regard to Italian versification, p. 258), or to deal with inadequate data (as in "Dante in America"), is increased; but not a few readers will be stimulated by this book.

Theodor Fontane: Aus dem Nachlass. Herausgegeben von Josef Ettlinger. Berlin: F. Fontane & Co.

Theodor Fontane occupies a unique position in German literature. Though his reminiscences of intellectual Berlin reach back to the romanticism and revolutionism of the first half of the century, his own work is more closely related with that of the latter half. He was a link between two generations of German writers and the first of the old to judge impartially of the new. Any appreciation of Fontane the poet and novelist would be incomplete without reference to his work as dramatic and literary critic of the *Vossische Zeitung*, a position which he held for many years and in which he gave proof of the depth and the breadth of his judgment. The selections presented in this posthumous volume include fiction, poetry, and criticism. The editor justly says that the fame of Fontane did not need a posthumous reinforcement, but the steadily growing number of Fontane's admirers had a right to be acquainted with writings which harmoniously complete the impression made by the man and his work during his lifetime. The volume appropriately contains the latest portrait of the author and the reproduction of an original drawing which Adolf von Menzel had sent him for his seventieth birthday.

"Mathilde Möhring," the novel which introduces the selections, is a story which one would not like to miss from his collected works. It is thoroughly characteristic of his firm grasp upon reality and his sympathetic understanding of human nature. The modern school with all its bare and naked naturalism has produced no more real and convincing "segment" of the life of the Berlin middle class of limited means than Fontane pictures in the little flat in the Georgen Strasse occupied by the widow Möhring and her daughter. Nor has the same school, so vociferously emphasizing its scientific methods and its psychological insight, produced two equally searching portraits of the soul of a hero and a heroine. They are not types, but individualities. The girl, Mathilde Möhring, is a true child of the poet's brain: she is of his own mettle. For throughout the poetry of Theodor Fontane and in some of his prose works one can recognize his sane philosophy of life reduced to the simple formula: Accept the inevitable. It is this brave and cheerful acceptance of things as they are which made his works so refreshing in the period of morbid pessimism which characterized German literature towards the end of the century. The story of Mathilde Möhring's rise in the social scale when Hugo is appointed mayor of Wildenstein and her calm return to her mother when his death puts a check upon her ambitions, is told with a delightful blend of humor and pathos.

The second part of the book contains verse. Some of it belongs to Fontane's earlier periods. The remainder is of his last years, and with its pithy commentary upon current life adds essentially to his portrait. "Old Fontane" was a merciless critic of his time, and newspapers and science receive their share of his satire. But even the most serious lines among these last gleanings radiate the sunshine of his temperament. The resignation of

> Leben: wohl dem, dem es sendet
> Freude, Kinder, täglich Brot,
> Doch das Beste, was es sendet,
> Ist das Wissen, das es sendet,
> Ist der Ausgang, ist der Tod—

this has in it an element of strength and health.

In the critical part of the volume the study of Willibald Alexis is the most comprehensive, and, when Fontane compares Alexis with Walter Scott, is very interesting; for the German novelist had begun his career by attempting to parody the English master and ended by emulating his example. The impressions of Goethe are admirably frank and direct. Fontane's views on "Hermann und Dorothea," "Werther," "Wilhelm Meister," and the "Italienische Reise" are likely to provoke protest from those who are wont to accept every line penned by the *Altmeister*. The study entitled "Die Märker und das Berlinertum" is a remarkable achievement. No other man was equally qualified to inquire into the racial and social antecedents of the type which has gradually given the Mark Brandenburg its character and is modifying that of its neighbors, the *Berliner*. Among the statements which are particularly interesting is the fact that the year 1685 added five thousand French Huguenots to the eight or ten thousand inhabitants of old Berlin.

Science.

A Text-book of the Principles of Animal Histology. By Ulric Dahlgren and William A. Kepner. New York: The Macmillan Co. $3.75 net.

The name of the senior author alone leads us to expect much from this volume, and the most careful scrutiny reveals almost no defects. It easily takes first place among histologies, chiefly because of the invaluable comparative element. With few exceptions, histologies, intended as they have been primarily for the medical student, have heretofore been based for the most part on the genus *Homo*. Morphologists and anatomists will welcome a general histology which in the widest sense holds to its title, treating its subject as a pure science. Where circumstances warrant, fundamental facts, such as mitosis (the splitting of the chromatin of a nucleus or the subdivision of any minute granular bodies embedded in living protoplasm), are elucidated even by botanical material. Owing to the great difficulty of consistent treatment by the embryological, or ontogenetic, method in such widely different groups as vertebrates and invertebrates, this system has not been adopted, but the subject has been treated from the point of view of *function*. The value of this plan is evident from the fact that "all structures exist only for the purpose of performing certain functions in some particular way."

The various tissues of organisms are discussed in twenty-three chapters, a final chapter treating of general technic. Perhaps the most valuable feature of the volume is the great number (no

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

fewer than 470) of excellent pen-and-ink drawings of generous size, carefully correlated with the context. Of especial interest to the student of comparatize zoölogy are such chapters as those on the electric tissues, light, pigment, and gas production. Selecting the discussion of light as typical, we find a well-balanced general discussion of the occurrence, the chemistry, the physiology, and the morphology of the production of light. This is followed by specific examples of photogenetic tissues, presented in taxonomic order, with careful descriptions and illustrated by fourteen drawings. Each general group is introduced by a sentence or a few words in heavy-faced type, facilitating quick reference, such as: "The protozoön, *Noctiluca*, is probably the best-known example of a luminous, one-celled animal"; "The Mollusks have many light-producing tissues." . . . "Several worms possess a fairly strong and steady luminosity"; and "Light organs have been described in the young of some birds." A paragraph on technic follows, and the chapter is concluded with a list of the six most comprehensive and authoritative articles in the literature of the subject.

One can scarcely imagine a clearer or better arranged text-book either for the general student or for the specialist in any of the many related sciences. Since scientists in many fields often have occasion to refer to or to verify some point in histology, the volume will appeal to readers outside of the domain of histology proper.

Charles Scribner's Sons will publish this autumn "Life Histories of Northern Animals," by Ernest Thompson Seton; "Camp-Fires on Desert and Lava," William T. Hornaday; "A Theory of Mind," Prof. John Lewis March; and "The Bible of Nature," Prof. J. Arthur Thompson.

The second volume of Dr. George M. Gould's "Borderland Studies" (Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co.), following the first at an interval of a dozen years, contains fourteen short articles reprinted for the most part from various medical journals. While the author commonly has the professional reader in mind, the layman will find much of interest besides getting a good idea of the cleverness of the writer, of his fondness for mannerisms, which are almost sophomoric, and of his use of the sledge-hammer even when a tack-hammer seems quite sufficient. The opening chapter, abundantly illustrated, treats of "the history of the house and the struggle for light and air" in an entertaining way, but apart from the question of beds makes few very definite suggestions. Students of history in its various aspects will hardly be ready to adopt the inference (p. 40) as to the relation of Oriental nomadism to bedbugs and filth, or of the relation of the bedbug to civilization in general. Of the other articles, that on "Disease and Sin" is perhaps the most suggestive, and that on "Child Fetiches" the most entertaining, while the one on "Some Ethical Questions" will add least to the author's reputation. The other chapters touch many topics, ranging from the importance of official records of personal statistics to problems of "style." The final chapter, on "Vocation or Avocation," is likely to confuse and mislead the lay reader, and its excessive bitterness is pretty sure to defeat the purpose of the writer.

Readers of Dr. H. S. Upson's "Insomnia and Nerve Strain" (G. P. Putnam's Sons) will hardly find as much satisfaction in it as the title suggests. The author's views concerning the action of the nervous system are not altogether clear and rest upon an interpretation of nervous phenomena which few students of these subjects are ready to accept. This may be said in general of the application of the doctrine of epicritic and protopathic fibres, of the assumption of a mobility of the neuroglia cells, and particularly of the effort to find resemblances or analogies in a comparison of nerve force with electricity. To speak of a "vascular potential" or to regard the "vitality" of cells, and of the ganglion cells in special, as the ability "to maintain a difference of potential sufficient to carry on nutrition by electric osmosis" (p. 105), is to choke a fair garden with rank weeds of speculation. More promising is the discussion of cases in which the impaction of teeth or the existence of dental defects, often apparently insignificant and readily overlooked, has proved to be the cause of serious mental disturbance. Dr. Upson gives numerous skiagrams to illustrate this point, and adds a brief chapter by Dr. E. B. Lodge on the technique of dental skiagraphy. The influence of very limited inflammatory processes in causing remote and often quite obscure results has been much discussed of late, and these questions are evidently worthy of most careful attention.

The Société Hollandaise des Sciences publishes the eleventh volume of the "Œuvres complètes de Christiaan Huygens." It comprises the mathematical works from 1645 to 1651.

In 1901 the French Parliament voted a permanent Fund for Scientific Research. Last year the amount paid out was a little over $40,000 for its chief object—"the progress of biological sciences, especially to the end of discovering new methods of treating the diseases of man, of domestic animals, and cultivated plants." Tuberculosis, with its myriad experimental problems, had rightfully the lion's share. To Professor S. Arloing $1,600 yearly has been assigned for the past five years, applied to his special research as to the modifications of the virulent agent in tuberculosis; various modes of anti-tuberculous vaccination; reaction to tuberculine; and the latest processes for diagnosing tuberculosis. Prof. L. C. A. Calmette of the Institut Pasteur had $3,000 in 1907 for his investigation of the conditions of tuberculous infection by the digestive tube; and clinical and experimental diagnosis of tuberculosis by the new method of "opthalmo-reaction." Among the thirteen other students of tuberculosis who have received aid, problems of equal interest are being investigated. This Fund for Scientific Research also publishes the volume of studies made in 1907 by Professor Calmette and his assistants on the biological and chemical purification of sewer waters. It gives a summary of all that is known on this subject, so important to municipalities, with an outline of what has been done in England, Germany, and the United States, and the year's experiments in Paris and Lille.

The Fourth International Fishery Congress will be held at Washington September 22-26. The presiding officer will be Dr. Hermon C. Bumpus, director of the American Museum of Natural History.

Dr. George Michael Edebohls, since 1893 professor of the diseases of women in the New York Post-Graduate Medical School, died in this city August 8. He was born here in 1853, was graduated from St. John's College, Fordham, and from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and he was on the staff of several hospitals. He had contributed to the medical journals many articles on diseases of the kidneys, and he was author of "The Surgical Treatment of Bright's Disease" (1904).

Word has been received from Danish Greenland that Mylius Erichsen and two others of the party that sailed from Copenhagen on the Denmark June 24, 1906, to explore and chart hitherto unknown parts of Greenland, perished in a snow-storm. They were overtaken by the storm while on an ice floe. The purpose of the expedition, which was backed by the government of Denmark, and approved by the American Geological Society and other scientific organizations, was achieved. Large tracts of land new to the geographers were mapped out, and the entire northeastern coast of Greenland was charted. Erichsen had attained fame as an explorer by leading a party across Melville Bay to the Cape York Eskimo settlement on the west coast of Greenland.

Drama and Music.

BRONSON HOWARD.

For many years Bronson Howard bore the courtesy title of the leading American dramatist, when he should have been described more properly as the leading playwright of America. This position he won by virtue of half a dozen conspicuous successes in different departments of drama and the comparative rarity of his failures, to which no further reference need be made. But, although he dealt largely with American subjects and types, his work was in no way distinctively national. For all his sharpness of observation, and his later capacity for satire, he was a story-teller, rather than a dramatist. His plays, resting upon a foundation of pre-ordained incidents, were essentially conventional in structure. They never grew out of the everlasting conflict between circumstance and character, and seldom touched upon any of the graver racial or social problems demanding a comprehensive outlook and philosophic insight. Not infrequently they represented certain phases of modern life with nota-

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

ble felicity; but, as a rule, they were mimetic, not inventive, and had no deeper purpose than the provocation of a transient interest.

Mr. Howard had the good fortune to come to the front in a period—between the late sixties and the early seventies—when the supply of American dramatists was at its lowest ebb, and he shone brilliantly by the side of far duller rivals. It is doubtful whether his "Saratoga," which was his stepping-stone to fortune, would win much favor to-day, even if it could be as well acted as it was then. From the critical point of view, it was the flimsiest and most insignificant of farces. But it was packed with situations which were funny, if manifestly preposterous—moved with great rapidity, and was sufficiently well knit to hold together in spite of its bewildering intricacies. In respect of technical workmanship, and effective handling of familiar characters, it was a decidedly creditable performance for a beginner. The fact that it probably had its inspiration in some of the touch-and-go French farces of the time does not lessen the skill of the adapter. And Mr. Howard was always an intelligent, adroit, and conscientious artificer, who, if he lacked the imagination to create original designs, put the best that was in him into the imitation of selected models.

When his second pronounced success, "The Banker's Daughter," was produced, the local stage had been abandoned to adaptations from the French of Sardou, D'Ennery, Augier, Feuillet, and others, and the influence of these writers might easily be traced in it. But it was, nevertheless, an original work, so far as the general outlines of the story and the various personages were concerned, and proved that the new dramatist had studied closely the devices of emotional melodrama and learned how to apply them to his own purposes. It is possible that "The Banker's Daughter" might be able to stand the test of revival, with a little modification. All the characters are variations of puppets long in use in the theatre, but the story is interesting, the crises ingeniously devised, the mechanism smooth, and the suspense well maintained. Undoubtedly, the popularity of this piece was due to its own intrinsic merit as fiction, as well as to its admirable performance. When war plays were the fashion, Mr. Howard presented his "Shenandoah," and again achieved a brilliant popular success. In this he also displayed an intimate knowledge of theatrical resources and of the requirements of public entertainment. Again, his story was conventional in its panorama of the woes of civil war, in its appeal to the patriotic enthusiasm of both sides, and its careful avoidance of offence to either; but it was well told and carefully elaborated. In short, it was the product of a shrewd, skilful, and laborious workman.

He never appeared to more artistic advantage than in his "Old Love Letters," a charming little piece in which a pretty but by no means original bit of fancy is put to excellent theatrical effect with no small measure of literary grace. But his best dramatic achievement, undoubtedly, was his comedy, "Aristocracy," which, in spite of its occasional exaggeration and melodramatic sensationalism, was a piece of purposeful and potent satire, aimed with vigor and directness at two of the worst forms of modern snobbishness. Neither in motive nor in development did this play exhibit much power of fresh imagination, but it was written with considerable literary force and much fearless independence of spirit. His latest composition, an unacted comedy called "Kate," was an attempt in the later style of emotional comedy, and is not likely, should it ever be performed, to add greatly to his reputation.

If Mr. Howard's abilities were not of the highest order, they were above the level of mere respectability, and they were not devoted to base ends. He never descended to the expedients of the lower sensationalism for the sake of money, and his memory will be more fragrant in this respect than those of some of his contemporaries. Possibly, if he had not been so fortunate at the outset of his career, he might have attained to higher literary and artistic distinction. But if he did not do much to elevate the stage, he never did anything to abase it, and he bore his triumphs with a modesty and dignity which were very becoming. He was ever ready to champion the best interests of the stage, and the whole theatrical world is the poorer for his loss.

Scribner's autumn list includes "Richard Mansfield: The Man and the Actor," by Paul Wilstach; and "The House of Rimmon," a drama in four acts, by Prof. Henry van Dyke.

In "Sudermanns Dramen" (imported by G. E. Stechert & Co.) Karl Knortz, a veteran writer on German themes, has published his lecture on the dramas of Sudermann, once delivered in New York under the auspices of Die germanistische Gesellschaft von Amerika. Knortz is no representative of the dry-as-dust German investigator, and he enlivens his always interesting, if not always cheerful, pages by facetious thrusts at the weak spots of the social organism. Knortz has too a good word for idealists, if only their dreams have a practical foundation; he believes they prepare the way for succeeding generations, and he recalls the idealistic endeavors of Plato, Kant, Goethe, Nietzsche, and others. Of this class Sudermann is, in the opinion of Herr Knortz, the most talented and most successful German representative. Part of this lecture consists of brief digests of Sudermann's plays, with here and there a word of specific criticism. The defect of the review is that space allotted to the separate works is not always well proportioned. In general Knortz holds that Sudermann has cast the ancients aside, and followed French influences, with this exception, that instead of depicting noble pleasure and furnishing a stimulus to better thinking and living, he has created characters who go after their own sinful inclinations. Adultery and seduction are the stereotyped themes of the majority of Sudermann's plays. Of course, the artist has the right to treat the hateful and improper in life, but only in the service of the beautiful; and while it is impossible to lay down exactly the bounds within which a dramatist should work, there is no doubt that Sudermann has frequently overstepped the limits of propriety. Sudermann is, however, as Herr Knortz views him, a great moral preacher, whose object, while showing the evil, is to point out that sin is punished on earth.

J. M. Barrie's new play will be produced in the Duke of York's Theatre, London, in September. It is in four acts, and is said to contain several studies of Scottish characters. Gerald Du Maurier, Lillah McCarthy, Mrs. Beerbohm Tree, Sydney Valentine, and others have important parts. It will be staged by Dion Boucicault.

G. P. Putnam's Sons announce for publication this autumn "Johann Sebastian Bach, Composer," by Sir Hubert Parry.

A good life of Brahms (in German) may now be had for a nickel abroad, or a dime in this country. It forms a new volume in Reclam's Universalbibliothek, and is by Richard von Perger, who knew the composer well.

At four of the musical festivals in England this autumn, Worcester, Sheffield, Bristol, and Norwich, Mendelssohn's "Elijah" will be given. At Worcester, Sir Edward Elgar's "Wand of Youth," Suite 2, will be produced; at Sheffield, October 5-9, Henry J. Wood, conductor, and Dr. Henry Coward, chorusmaster, Fritz Delius's "Sea-Drift," a suite from the opera, "Eve of Christmas," by the late Rimsky-Korsakoff, Bach's "Matthew" Passion, Verdi's "Requiem," Berlioz's "Te Deum," Cæsar Franck's "The Beatitudes," Dr. Walford Davies's "Everyman," and Debussy's cantata 'L'Enfant prodigue"; at Bristol, October 14-17, George Riseley, conductor, Sir Charles Villiers Stanford's "Ode on the Death of the Duke of Wellington," Felix Woyrsch's "Passion Music," and Cyril B. Rootham's cantata "Andromeda"; at Norwich, October 28-31, Henry J. Wood, director, the prize cantata "Cleopatra," by Julius Harrison, Hugo Wolf's "Christmas Night," Dvorák's "Stabat Mater," Brahms's "Requiem," Debussy's "The Blessed Damozel," and Sir E. Elgar's "Dream of Gerontius" and "King Olaf."

Paul Joseph Maria Homeyer, one of the most famous of German organists, has died in his fifty-fifth year. His grandfather, his father, and his uncle were musicians. Born at Osterode, he studied at Kildesheim and Leipzig. At the time of his death he was organist at the Gewandhaus, Leipzig, and teacher at the conservatory there.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

Art.

Old Cottages and Farmhouses in Surrey, illustrated on one hundred collotype plates from photographs by W. Galsworthy Davie, with an introduction and numerous sketches by W. Curtis Green. Pp. xiv+69. New York: William Helburn.

Books devoted to the minor domestic architecture of England have great interest for those who care for the artistic aspect of the dwelling; for there is no other country in which there is so large a proportion of attractive design, picturesque treatment, unassuming novelty, in country houses of small cost and of no pretension. Three such books are published in a well-known series by B. T. Batsford (imported by William Helburn), with illustrations from photographs; and these books are modelled on Ralph Nevill's volume of 1891, with his own drawings of the cottages of southwestern Surrey. The four volumes, in crown quarto, with page 7x10 inches, all deal with the heart of southern England, from the Channel to Northamptonshire. The new volume whose title is given above is made up of 100 plates, from photographs by Mr. Davie, and 69 pages of text by Mr. Green, with slight drawings in the text and a few half-tone prints of details of architecture.

The special interest is in the charm to be found in simple disposition of a few necessary parts—roof and walls, chimney stacks and dormers, and broad, low, lattice windows; and in such variety of surface decoration as may lie in tiling, weather-boarding, walls of varied masonry and timber framing. The drawings of Mr. Nevill's book in many cases represent the same houses which are given in the photographs of this work; and, as the points of view are different in most cases, the comparison is valuable. Thus, at Witley, in Surrey, the White Hart Inn has the ground story built of stone, a low second-story covered with tile hung from laths, and a large hipped roof, an unusual feature in England, covered with square tiles. The possession of two quite different views of this building, with two separate comments by men as competent as Mr. Nevill and Mr. Green, is a distinct advantage for the student.

The new book, taken by itself, is devoted chiefly to the houses of the ancient yeomanry. The lingering on of the picturesque element of mediæval art throughout the neo-classic revival is one of the paradoxes of architecture. The designer of the court, chosen by the noble and the bishop, had to pose as the advocate of Roman dignity and neo-classic grace, but the unknown builder, who, in the seventeenth century or in the days of Queen Anne, laid the brick walls of Bonnet's Farm, near Ockley (Plate lxi.), and the stone masonry of the house at Shamley Green (Plates lxxiii. and lxxiv.), was able to plan as he and his workmen had learned from their teachers—simply, unaffectedly, and with a natural turn for picturesque and therefore graceful results. The same influence is seen in the older Colonial houses of New England and Virginia. Evident, too, is the retention of the way of work of the mediæval builder, who staked out his house and proceeded to lay up his walls, without having carefully finished and figured drawings to follow. It must be said, too, that the text of these books, and especially of the latest, written by Mr. Green, is wholly in harmony with the spirit of the ancient impulse.

The defect of the book is the general absence of ground plans. If we could have a plan, or even two plans of each house which is given in photography, and a measured drawing of unusual bits of framing, the value of the work to the serious student would be doubled.

Duffield & Co. will issue in their Art and Letters Library this autumn "Artists of the Italian Renaissance," stories of the Italian artists as set forth by Vasari, Ridolfi, Lanzi, and others, collected by E. L. Seeley; "Stories of the Italian Artists from Vasari," also edited by Mr. Seeley; "Stories of the English Artists, 1700-1850"; and "Stories of the Flemish Artists from Van Eyck to the Seventeenth Century," by Prof. Paul de Mont, director of the Royal Museum, Antwerp.

Those who are interested in the question as to the encouragement of art by the state will find grist for their mill in "Les Beaux-Arts et la nation" by Charles M. Couyba, now a member of the French Senate, but better known as a public school songwriter under his anagrammatic name, Maurice Boukay. He deals with the duty of the state to foster art, with æsthetic pedagogy, decorative art in France and other countries, art in schools, and national museums and manufactures.

Jacques Baschet, secretary of the École nationale des Beaux-Arts, publishes two volumes on "La Peinture française au dix-huitième siècle et au dix-neuvième." They complete the series covering the entire history of French painting, a volume published last year being devoted to the period from the first beginnings down to the eighteenth century. The present volumes practically reach from Watteau to Édouard Manet, inaugurator of the new art of the nineteenth century's end. The writer is in sympathy with these new ideas, which claim for themselves the sole genuine representation of life and nature.

The Louvre Museum has acquired, at the price of 200,000 francs, Hans Memling's portrait of an old woman, which was exhibited in 1902 at Bruges, with other Flemish Primitives. It was originally the left-hand panel of a diptych. The right—portrait of a man—is a well-known possession of the Berlin Museum. The present panel comes from the Meazza collection of Milan.

The French Académie des Beaux-Arts has announce the awards in the Sculpture Section of the Prix de Rome. The Grand Prix is won by Marcel Armand Gaumont, who obtained prizes in 1903 and 1906; the Deuxième Grand Prix, by Camille Crenier; the Premier Second Grand Prix, by Paul Ponsard, who won in 1905, 1906, and 1907; and the Deuxième Second Grand Prix by Louis Lejeune.

Eugène Feyen, a former student of Paul Delaroche, has died at the age of ninety-three. He was particularly successful with pictures of the French coast. His best-known work is Les Glaneuses de la mer.

Walter Leistikow, one of the leading Berlin "secessionists," has died in his forty-third year. His most popular subjects are the landscapes about Berlin.

Finance.

LOW RATES FOR CALL MONEY.

Call money was lent on the Stock Exchange last week at ¾ of 1 per cent. **Such a low** rate had not been seen in four years; in only three years—1904, 1895, and 1884—has such a low level been touched in August. Last year the lowest rate in this month was 1¾ per cent., on August 21. The opening of August usually witnesses low rates for call loans, but less than 1 per cent. is abnormal. After dropping to ¾ cent. the rate rose again to 1¼ per cent., but 1 per cent. prevailed throughout the week. Are such low figures likely to continue?

They are, provided that the Stock Exchange demand does not impose unusual burdens upon the banks. At Paris discount rates fell last week to 1 per cent., the lowest point since 1895; they have also been lowered at London and at Amsterdam. Money has also been so easy here that not since March has call money commanded more than 2 per cent., and at no time since the end of January more than 2¼. The record of 1904 furnishes a somewhat similar instance, for in that year 2 per cent. was the highest rate between the close of January and the end of September, except for a single day in May. In July and August, 1904, conditions in the money market were like those of to-day. Call money

Financial.

Letters of Credit

Buy and sell bills of exchange and make cable transfers of money on all foreign points; also make collections, and issue Commercial and Travellers' Credits available in all parts of the world.

International Cheques. Certificates of Deposit.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.
No. 59 Wall Street, New York

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

stood at ½ and ¾ per cent. throughout August and at ⅞ per cent. for three weeks of September. Then the rate gradually worked higher, until by October loans were commanding 2½ per cent., by November 3 and 4, and by December 4 and 5. This precedent may not be followed this year, although the New York bank surplus stands now about where it did then. After a financial crisis, however, interest rates always fall. Following the panics of 1903, 1893, and 1883, Wall Street had periods of ½ per cent. for call money; after 1873, the rate went to 1 per cent. Thus the present course of money rates is not at all unusual.

Such low rates are naturally disliked by the banks, since they commonly mean a great reduction in earnings. At ¾ per cent. $100,000 brings the lender only $2.08 per day. Under ordinary conditions, such a small return would not pay a bank for the trouble of making the loan, if it was to hold only for a single day; a call loan, however, usually runs for several days and sometimes for months, and the rate is often changed many times. Last year the banks received an average of 6.38 per cent. for call money during the entire twelve months; if present conditions continue, this year's average may be nearer 3 per cent.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Abbott, David P. The History of a Strange Case. Chicago: The Open Court Publishing Company.

Bogert, Henry L. Year Book of the Holland Society of New York.

Crosby, Ernest. Labor and Neighbor. Chicago: Louis F. Post. 25 cents.

Dinsmore, John Wirt. Teaching a District School. American Book Company. $1.

Eaton, Amasa M. Roger Williams, the Founder of Providence—the Pioneer of Religious Liberty. Department of Education, Rhode Island.

Eberhardt, Goby. My System for Practising the Violin and Piano. English text by Gustav Saenger. Carl Fischer. $2 net.

Gowen, Rev. Herbert H. Hawaiian Idylls of Love and Death. Cochrane Publishing Co. $1.00.

Hodson, S. C. The Meitheis. Introduction by Sir Charles J. Lyall. London: David Nutt. 7s. 6d. net.

Hoffmann, Mrs. Adolphe. The Social Duty of Our Daughters. Philadelphia: Vir Publishing Co.

Illinois School Report, 1904-1906. Springfield, Ill.: Phillips Bros.. The School Law of Illinois with annotations. Compiled by J. C. Thompson. Springfield: Illinois State Journal Co.

Lampton, William J. The Trolley Car and the Lady. Boston: Richard G. Badger, 25 cents.

Langley, S. P. Researches and Experiments in Aerial Navigation. Washington: Government Printing Office.

Lyall, Sir Charles, Editor. The Mikirs, from the papers of the late Edward Stack. London: David Nutt. 7s. 6d. net.

Maitland, F. W. The Constitutional History of England. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $3.50 net.

Malone Society, W. W. Greg, editor. Collections, Part I.; The History of King Leir. Oxford: University Press.

Morgan, Mary H.. How to Dress a Doll. Philadelphia: Henry Altemus Co. 50 cents.

Owen, Charles H. The Justice of the Mexican War. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.25 net.

Podmore, Frank. The Naturalization of the Supernatural. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $2.00 net.

Sauter, Edwin. The Death of Gracchus. St. Louis: Published by the author.

Seeberg, Dr. Reinhold. The Fundamental Truths of the Christian Religion. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.50 net.

Ungnad, Arthur. Selected Business Documents of the Neo-Babylonian Period. Leyden: E. J. Brill.

Upham, Alfred Horatio. The French Influence in English Literature. The Columbia University Press. $2 net.

Year-book of the New York Department of Agriculture. Washington: Government Printing Office.

JUST PUBLISHED

Dewey and Tufts's Ethics

By JOHN DEWEY, Professor in Columbia University, and JAMES H. TUFTS, Professor in the University of Chicago

618 pp., 8vo, (AMERICAN SCIENCE SERIES). $2.00 net

The significance of this book lies in its effort to awaken a vital conviction of the genuine reality of moral problems. Instead of presenting a ready-made system of ethics, the authors have adopted the historical method of approach. A study of *conditions* in successive stages of evolution puts the student in a position to judge the problems of conduct for himself. Part III. applies the results reached to problems of the present day.

HENRY HOLT AND COMPANY 34 W. 33d St., NEW YORK.

12,000 WORDS OFTEN MISPRONOUNCED

A Revised and Enlarged Edition of 10,000 Words Often Mispronounced

By W. H. P. PHYFE,

Author of "5,000 Words Often Mispelled"

84th Thousand. 16mo. 780 pages. $1.25 net. Full limp leather, $2.00 net.

A complete handbook of difficulties in English pronunciation. Including an unusually large number of proper names and words from foreign languages.

"Greatly superior to all others of its kind . . . unique."—*Am. Jl. of Education.*

G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS NEW YORK and LONDON

Turkey in Europe

By Sir CHARLES ELIOT. *New Edition*, with an additional chapter on the events from 1869 to the present day. Crown 8vo. $2.50.

***Although the identity of Odysseus has for some time been an open secret, it is satisfactory to be able at length to reveal definitely the authorship of this work.

LONGMANS, GREEN, & CO., New York

THE DIAL says:

Historic Highways of America

should fill an important and hitherto unoccupied place in American historical literature.

THE ARTHUR H. CLARK CO.
Cleveland, Ohio

SHAKESPEARE

First Folio Edition
Edited by Porter-Clarke.

VOLUMES NOW READY: "Midsommer Night's Dreame," "Love's Labour's Lost," "Comedie of Errors," "Merchant of Venice," "Macbeth," "Julius Caesar," "Hamlet," "King Lear," "Twelfe Night," "As You Like It," "Henry the Fift," "Much Adoe About Nothing," "Romeo and Juliet," "The Tempest," "Othello," "The Winter's Tale." Price in cloth, 75 cents per volume; limp leather, $1.00 per volume, postpaid.

Thomas Y. Crowell & Co., New York

Books by William J. Long

WHOSE HOME IS THE WILDERNESS
BRIER PATCH PHILOSOPHY
NORTHERN TRAILS
A LITTLE BROTHER TO THE BEAR
SCHOOL OF THE WOODS
FOLLOWING THE DEER
BEASTS OF THE FIELD
FOWLS OF THE AIR

GINN & COMPANY - BOSTON

"Probably the most distinguished and discriminating art criticism of this year."

THE ART OF WILLIAM BLAKE

BY ELISABETH LUTHER CARY.
Uniquely illustrated. Boxed. $3.50 net (carriage extra).
Moffat, Yard & Company - New York

FATE'S A FIDDLER

By EDWIN GEORGE PINKHAM.
Illustrated by Lester Ralph, the frontispiece in color.

"A revival of the leisurely, satisfying human life story . . . full of the charm of the personal view. A diverting tale and interesting."—*Kansas City Star.* $1.50 postpaid.

SMALL, MAYNARD & COMPANY, BOSTON

Send for a Prospectus of the

Shakespeare Library

A comprehensive series of texts and studies, under the editorship of Professor I. Gollancz, valuable alike for students and general readers.

DUFFIELD & COMPANY 36 WEST 37TH ST. NEW YORK

FOREIGN BOOKS *Send for Catalogue.* SCHOENHOF BOOK CO. 128 Tremont Street, BOSTON, MASS. TAUCHNITZ BRITISH AUTHORS

BOOKS—All out of print books supplied, no matter on what subject; write me, stating books wanted; I can get you any book ever published; when in England, call and inspect my stock of 50,000 rare books. BAKER'S GREAT BOOKSHOP, John Bright St., Birmingham, England.

WHY WORRY?

You need not if you read Dr. George L. Walton's new book on the subject. Cloth, $1.00 net. Postpaid, $1.10.

J. B. LIPPINCOTT CO., Philadelphia.

LICENSED TO UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED